



Daily Report

Latin America

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Opposition Brand U.S. Protest Over Cuba as 'High Handed'

*FL0908163093 Bridgetown CANA in English 1540
GMT 9 Aug 93*

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Aug 9, CANA—The Standing Conference of Popular Democratic Parties of the Eastern Caribbean (SCOPE) Monday [9 August] branded as "high handed" the United States protest over a decision by Caribbean Community (Caricom) governments to establish a Caricom-Cuba joint commission.

"I think we must have the right to determine what kind of relationship we have with Third Countries and that the United States must stop wielding the big stick in order to force people like ourselves to do the things they feel that we should be doing...." SCOPE's chairman Julian Hunte told reporters.

Hunte was speaking ahead of a scheduled meeting of the body, which groups opposition parties mainly in the islands of Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. That meeting, planned for the week of August 15, will also discuss the banana industry, and the recent decision by Caricom leaders to sell the regional airline LIAT to a Barbados-based business consortium.

The subcommittee on foreign affairs of the U.S. House of Representatives has written individual Caricom governments, expressing shock at the Caricom-Cuba joint commission. The subcommittee said it was "particularly outraged" that language which would have linked technical cooperation with Havana to improvements in human rights and moves towards democracy, was deleted from the agreement establishing the commission.

Caricom leaders at their summit in the Bahamas in July, agreed to delete the references to the human rights from the agreement, after Havana had protested that similar Caricom agreements with Central and Latin America did not include such clauses.

Hunte said he was of the view that the "high-handedness approach (by the U.S.) went out with the fall of the Communist system." He said it was ironical for Washington to be expressing outrage at the region's decision at a time when the U.S. Administration had granted China, a country with human rights violations, most favoured trading status.

"They can bend the rules to suit their own situation.... In our case they expect us to follow a straight line that leads to nowhere, so that from my own point of view, I think they are a bit rude to say the least and inconsiderate to want to determine what type of relationship we should have with Cuba."

"I think one wants to see whether our governments have the backbone that is necessary at this time to tell the American Government exactly where to jump off," Hunte added.

Hunte said the meeting here is expected to adopt a position on the sale of LIAT. He noted the opposition grouping was supportive of the stand taken by Antigua and Barbuda in opposing the sale.

"I think it is necessary for the full weight of the opposition in as far as its full views on LIAT be now aired, so that everybody can understand exactly what is happening and where we are coming from, and also to lend support to the opposition parties and forces in Antigua who are opposed to the deal."

Asked if SCOPE members are opposed to the deal, Hunte replied: "That's right. As it is presently structured."

Trinidad Minister Defends Caricom-Cuba Commission

*FL1008165693 Bridgetown CANA in English 1559
GMT 10 Aug 93*

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Aug 10, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago's Foreign Affairs Minister Ralph Maraj on Tuesday [10 August] defended a decision of Caribbean Community (Caricom) governments to establish a joint commission to pursue various forms of cooperation with Cuba. The Caricom move has triggered an angry reaction among some United States lawmakers, with the subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs of the House of Representatives sending a letter of protest to individual Caricom leaders.

The letter urged Caricom countries to reconsider and rescind their decision and warned it could jeopardize the chances of Caricom countries being included in a hemispheric free trade zone being promoted by the United States. A group of Central American countries distanced themselves from the Caricom decision in a letter sent to the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Maraj, in a CANA interview, said: "The community made their decision and that decision stands." The purpose of the commission, he noted, was to promote cooperative relations between Caricom and Cuba in economic, social, cultural, and technological areas. Maraj said although the Central American countries had distanced themselves from Caricom on the issue, he did not think it would affect relations between the two regions.

"As we go into the future and as the relationship between Caricom and Central America deepens, I'm sure the foundation would be laid for solidarity on matters, both internal and external," he said.

Cuba**Colombian Communists Stress Importance of Castro Visit***FL1008145393 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Aug 93*

[Text] The Colombian Communist Party has ratified its solidarity with the majority of the Cuban people by extolling the visit of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to Colombia that began on 9 August. In a communique, the organization affirms that the two-day visit of the Cuban president to the Caribbean city of Cartagena where he will meet with President Cesar Gaviria is a very significant event, which the government as well as the people should keep in mind. The note stresses that despite the U.S. economic blockade and the campaigns against Cuba, progress is being made in the process of restoring diplomatic ties between Cuba and Latin American countries. The notes also demands that the Colombian Government elevate to that level the consular ties initiated two years ago.

Havana Reports on Castro Visit to Cartagena de Indias*FL1008144593 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1400 GMT 10 Aug 93*

[Report by Pachita Armas Fonseca]

[Excerpts] At this time, our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro is in Cartagena de Indias, a Caribbean city in Colombia. [passage omitted on history of the city]

According to news reports, Fidel Castro and his host, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, will hold talks and tour the city.

Although this was not a public visit, friends of Cuba have staged demonstrations in different parts of Colombia to show support for our Revolution. This is rather appropriate, because the liberator, Simon Bolivar, considered Cartagena de Indias to be the heroic city of the pro-independence movement.

Spanish Foreign Minister Joins Castro, Gaviria*FL1008210093 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 2220 GMT 9 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] After an emotion-filled, five-day visit to the capital of Bolivia, Cuban President Fidel Castro is today going to Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, at the invitation of Colombian President Cesar Gaviria. [passage omitted]

Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana will also attend the first meeting between Gaviria and Fidel. He will be taking advantage of a stopover in Cartagena to do so.

President Fidel Castro is accompanied, on his visit to Colombia, by the same delegation that attended the transfer-of-power ceremonies in La Paz. [passage omitted]

Castro, Gaviria Discuss 'International Subjects'*FL1008231293 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 2220 GMT 10 Aug 93*

[Text] The commander in chief met with Colombian President Cesar Gaviria today after arriving in Cartagena de Indias yesterday. Fidel Castro arrived in Cartagena, a city some 1,300 km north of Bogota, last night, on a two-day visit. Last night, the commander in chief attended a dinner hosted by Gaviria that was also attended by Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana and Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

According to reports, the two presidents today began discussing international subjects and the current situations of their respective countries. These same sources add that, in addition to this, the two presidents will visit historic locations in Colombia's "Heroic City," as Cartagena is called, while other tours of various areas in Cartagena de Indias are planned.

It was agreed that Fidel would visit Colombia to continue the dialogues the commander in chief and President Gaviria had in July at the Third Ibero-American Summit in Salvador, Bahia, as well as those of last week in La Paz, where both were present at the inauguration of President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada.

Further on Castro-Gaviria Meeting*FL1108022693 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Aug 93*

[Report by Eva Alvarez—live]

[Text] The presidents of Cuba and Colombia, Fidel Castro and Cesar Gaviria, today met for some seven hours, in the longest of four interviews that the two have had over the past two years. Cameramen and photographers from the national and foreign media were today authorized to note the meeting, which took place at the House of Illustrious Guests in Cartagena, which is 1,300 km north of here [as heard], where the Cuban leader arrived last night.

An official Colombian source announced that the two chiefs of state, accompanied by their foreign ministers Roberto Robaina and Nohemi Sanin, did not interrupt their talks at all, not even at lunchtime, which was turned into a working lunch. It was reported that Nobel prize winner, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, who won the Nobel Prize for literature, also participated in this meeting. Garcia Marquez last night met the visitor [at the airport], along with Foreign Minister Sanin. However, no one has been able to confirm this later report.

No information about the subjects discussed at this meeting has leaked out. It was said earlier that this meeting would have an open agenda so that each chief of state could include whatever subjects he considered of interest. However, it is hoped that the subjects discussed will be made known at the news conference scheduled for tomorrow at 1100 hours local time. Dario of Radio Caracol has confirmed to us that there is a press conference scheduled at that time.

Fidel Castro was invited by Gaviria to make this two-day visit in order to continue the dialogue begun last July in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, during the Third Ibero-American Summit, and continued last week in La Paz, where both men attended the presidential inauguration ceremonies.

The two chiefs of state had met [words indistinct] for the first time during the First Ibero-American Summit, held in July of 1991 in Guadalajara, Mexico, when they agreed to reestablish consular ties between their countries. They had been introduced earlier at [7-second break in reception] [words indistinct].

This visit has given rise to great expectations in Colombia, and dozens of journalists from local, national, and foreign media have concentrated in Cartagena. Meanwhile, the daily papers and radio and television newscasts have given this event much coverage.

There you have, Cesar, the latest report we have received on our commander in chief's presence in Colombia.

People Flood Banks Due to Currency Change Rumors

FL1008194693 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Report on interview with Luis Garcia, vice president of the People's Savings Bank, by Carlos Santana Ojeda; place and date not given]

[Text] People's Savings Bank branches have been flooded with people alarmed by rumors of an imminent change of currency. On this subject, newsman Carlos Santana Ojeda talked with Luis Garcia, vice president of the People's Savings Bank.

[Begin recording] [Santana] How much truth is there to this?

[Garcia] I can say that so far there is no indication of an intent to adopt any such measure. The People's Savings Bank maintains its principle that the client, the account holder, has free access to his balance at any time. Similarly, he has access to his account, not just at the branch where he opened the account, but in branches in other municipalities or other provinces.

[Santana] Luis, how do all these deposits that are being made bring about a sense of equilibrium, and how do they work to the country's benefit?

[Garcia] They work to the country's benefit because, as everyone knows, at present the people's disbursements are minimal. The economic limitations the country is experiencing do not allow the people to obtain certain consumer goods or pay for certain services. To the extent that these deposits that are being kept by the people return to the bank, they help the country's economy, because they are not working against the country's internal finances.

[Santana] What measures has the bank had to take in response to all this pressure—in other words, the flood of people in the banks—to regulate and facilitate its operations?

[Garcia] For some time, our branches have been working even when they have no electricity. They are subject to the same problems that the people have regarding electrical service. We are not exempt from that problem. The branches are working full schedule. We have increased the number of cashiers, as well as other employees who deal with the people at the counters. We have adopted all kinds of measures of this kind in an attempt to provide, within the existing material limitations, an optimal, most efficient, quality service for the benefit of the bank's clients. [end recording]

This has been a report on comments and concerns regarding a change of currency in the country. These are exclusive details.

Roundup of Economic Activity Reported 2 Aug to 10 Aug

FL1008142793

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of file-worthy reports on economic developments in Cuba carried on Havana radio and television in Spanish between 2 and 10 August.

Radio Rebelde at 2300 GMT on 2 August reports that the Namibia-Cuba Friendship Association has presented a donation of \$12,900 and school supplies to Sergio Corrieri, Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples [ICAP] president.

Radio Progreso at 1100 GMT on 5 August reports that the first of three flights to bring donations from Nicaragua arrived in Havana with 17 tons of powdered milk collected as part of a campaign, "A Pound of Milk for Cuban Children," sponsored by the Committee of Solidarity with Cuba in Managua.

Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision at 0000 GMT on 4 August report that the Mexican Government donated materials to Casa de las Americas "today" so that it can reconstruct its library. Also, the primary schools of Habana Vieja Municipality have received a donation of school supplies from Torrelavega, Cantabria Province, in northern Spain.

Radio Reloj at 1959 GMT on 4 August reports that over 28,200 quintals of tubers and vegetables were harvested in July at the Guira de Melena Miscellaneous Crops Enterprise in Havana Province. This figure exceeded the plan for the period but is insufficient to supply the population.

Radio Reloj at 1947 GMT on 6 August reports that Granma Province had completed 704 materials-efficient houses as of July, thereby exceeding its first annual housing plan by 4 houses. Construction of those houses began in April 1992, but suffered a three-month setback due to the well-known economic shortages. Granma Province is building another 1,461 houses, of which over 300 are

almost finished. Meanwhile, work under the new annual plan, which is for close to 800 houses, was begun this month.

Radio Reloj at 1951 GMT on 6 August reports that a new provincial laboratory for medicine production was inaugurated on 6 August in Las Tunas with two leading members of the Pastors for Peace group in attendance. The center has departments for making medicines from medicinal plants, chemical products, and products from bee-keeping. Jorge Luis Macias, director of the Las Tunas Province Medicines Enterprise, explained that the new laboratory completes a network of similar installations that exist in the province's eight municipalities.

Radio Rebelde at 2300 GMT on 6 August reports that the Playa de Santa Maria tourist area has received five times as many tourists so far as the number that visited by this time last year and hopes to close 1993 having grown 40 percent, as regards this indicator. The entity's director has told the press there is a possibility of also increasing by 100 percent the amount of hard currency income made in 1992. He explained that new lodgings are being prepared, services and options are being improved, and a coherent promotion policy is being implemented in Canada, Italy, Spain, and Germany, the biggest tourist-producing markets.

Radio Reloj at 1955 GMT on 9 August reports that the federation of energy sector workers of Catalonia have donated protective equipment, work clothing, and tools to Cuban electricity sector workers. The donated goods are particularly useful for linemen. Approximately 500 pairs of boots and an equal amount of helmets, 300 safety belts, 150 pairs of pliers, and a similar amount of high-tension work screwdrivers are just part of the products brought by a 22-man delegation from the Catalan federation.

Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision at 0000 GMT on 10 August report that the Pasomano Fish Farm in Bartolome Maso Municipality in Gramma Province plans to produce over 42.5 million fresh water fish fry this year. It produces tilapia, carp, and catfish eggs to stock reservoir and natural lakes in the five eastern provinces.

Dominica

Charles Announces Retirement, Replacement Sought

FL1108020593 Bridgetown CANA in English 2102 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Aug 10, CANA—Diplomat Charles Savarin has advised the three other candidates in the fight to replace Prime Minister Dame Eugenia Charles as political leader of the Dominica Freedom Party against a dirty campaign. He said he hoped the "effort to win friends and influence people will not be at the expense of the reputation of any of the people involved."

Members of the Freedom Party meet Saturday to choose a replacement for Dame Eugenia, who is leaving active politics when her party's term of office expires in 1995.

Savarin, based in Brussels, said he was concerned that apparently overzealous supporters of some of the candidates were adopting undesirable practices in their bid to win support. Savarin is up against government ministers Brian Alleyne, Alleyne Carbon, and Charles Maynard. He said he was not against the internal lobbying process to woo the 130 delegates who will decide the leadership issue on Saturday.

Savarin had been the subject of some unfavourable comments by persons writing anonymously in the NEW CHRONICLE and TROPICAL STAR newspapers here. He said there was no need for any undue criticism of a personal nature which seeks to undermine the integrity of any individual, since all the candidates must continue to work together in the interest of the ruling party after the election.

Dominican Republic

* Falconbridge Produces 5.65 Million Lb of Nickel

93CA0168D Santo Domingo EL SIGLO in Spanish
9 Jul 93 p 1-D

[Article by Jose Mercedes Feliz]

[Text] The mining company Falconbridge Dominicana last month produced 5,652,731 lb of nickel, despite the unstable price of nickel in the international market.

According to officials of the foreign firm, since reinitiating operations last 8 March, the company has produced a total of 12,445,821 lb of nickel.

They stated that during the operating days in March the firm produced 1,679,864 pounds, while in April it reached 5,113,226 pounds, thus rising to the normal production rate.

Meanwhile, the average price of the metal in international markets in January was \$2.69 per lb, in February it rose to \$2.74, in March and April it was \$2.71, and in May it fell to \$2.52 for 16 ounces.

The continuous decline in prices and demand in the international market caused Falconbridge executives to decide to suspend operations on 26 December 1992, with plans to reopen on 27 March, but they advanced the date to 8 March.

It was recalled that Falconbridge exported 5,658,205 lb of nickel from last year's production.

The company's 1993 production forecast was for some 55 million lb, at a cost much lower than during the final quarter of last year.

In 1992, production rose to 60.7 million lb, of which 60.5 million were sold overseas, at an average price of \$3.14. Last year the production forecast was 70.0 million lb.

Nevertheless, it was not known yesterday what would be the new policy the firm's executives might adopt if the

instability in the international market persists, since until April they considered it acceptable.

However, the officials do not believe the mining firm's operations would be shut down unless prices fall to their lowest levels in the past five years.

Falconbridge first reduced its operations by 50 percent on 7 October 1991, a situation that persisted until the end of February 1992, because of the fall in prices and demand. At that time, quotes varied between \$3.23 and \$3.29.

Moreover, for almost the entire month of August last year, production remained suspended, in order to reduce accumulated inventories.

For their part, operations at Rosario and Ideal Dominicana will remain suspended, which will cause production of principal mining products to fall drastically.

Over the last three months, the Central Bank has not provided any data on the behavior of the country's mining sector, as it had done since the beginning of 1992.

According to that monetary institution, during all last year mining production dropped precipitously, with a decline of 18.5 percent, primarily because of a 23-percent reduction in nickel production in the face of the contraction of international prices, and by the difficulties faced by Rosario to operate efficiently in a transition project.

*** ONAPRES Reports on May Revenues, Expenditures**

93CA0168C Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish
5 Jul 93 pp 1, 4

[Text] Central government revenues for last May totaled 1,553.7 billion pesos, according to a report by the National Budget Office (Onapres).

In an explanatory note offering details of those government agencies considered to be high priority among those that were distributed resources, Onapres says that of the total amount collected, 992.5 million pesos were budgeted for investment.

Revenues for the month of May were 122 million pesos less than for April. April collections totaled 1,674,813,932 pesos, while in May they were 1,553,789,786.

Following is a reprint of the Onapres note.

"The National Budget Office, in the interest of keeping the public informed about State income and expenditures corresponding to the month of May 1993, releases for public dissemination details related to this portion of the current budget exercise.

"The strategy of the current government, headed by the Most Excellent Mr. President of the Republic, Dr. Joaquin Balaguer, in the distribution of public funds considers essential priorities with respect to the agricultural, irrigation, potable water, energy, health, and education sectors, without excluding other sectors of utmost importance

which contribute to the harmonious development of progress and the national economy.

"The nation's revenues for the indicated period totaled 1,553,789,786.00 pesos, of which 992,524,050.65 pesos were budgeted for investment.

"The agricultural, irrigation, and energy sectors were granted a total of 166,922,793.42 pesos. Specifically, the National Institute of Water Institute (Indrhi) received the sum of 67,669,401.87 pesos for the construction and supervision of the Jigüey-Aguacate dams and the Sabaneta dam project, as well as for the construction and repair of canals and the maintenance of other dams.

"The Dominican Electricity Corporation (CDE) received 41,667,424.11 pesos to cover commitments by that institution and to contribute to improving our country's energy system.

"The Dominican Agrarian Institute (IAD) received 17,814,522.99 pesos to implement various projects and finance several agricultural programs. The Agricultural Bank received 6,931,602.75 pesos to support the small producers of Azua and implement the Southwest Small Producers Project. The Special Fund for Agricultural-Livestock Development (FEDA) received 1,440,190.25 pesos to intensify programs supporting agricultural-livestock production and for other related purposes; the La Cruz de Manzanillo project received 2,678,188 pesos for seeds of various agricultural crops; the Secretary of State for Agriculture received 18,000,000 pesos for different agricultural programs and projects; the State Sugar Council (CEA) received 43,862,530.08 pesos for commitments related to the 1992-93 harvest, and other items.

"The Institute of Drinking Water and Sewage (INAPA) received the sum of 32,017,462.77 pesos to implement various works.

"The Central Bank of the Republic received 145,000,000 pesos for payment of the public debt and for strengthening our currency, and Mr. President designated the sum of 70,000,000 pesos for demonetization purposes. The Santo Domingo Waterworks and Sewage Corporation (CAASD) was granted 100,936,443.33 pesos for construction of the Valdesia-Santo Domingo waterworks, the Cibao Central waterworks, and others.

"Finally, the Secretary of State for Public Works and Communications received appropriations totaling 350,156,386.05 pesos, the Office of Supervisory Engineers of State Works received 82,072,246.85 pesos, and the Office of Coordination and Monitoring of State Works received 45,000,000 pesos to implement works and programs of social and economic interest throughout the Republic, such as housing projects, airports, ports, free-trade zones, aqueducts, sewers, highways, local roads, street maintenance, and historical monuments."

*** Jan-May Trade Deficit Totals \$641.2 Million**

93CA0168B Santo Domingo EL SIGLO in Spanish
10 Jul 93 p 1D

[Article by Jose Mercedes Feliz]

[Text] The trade balance between the Dominican Republic and the rest of the world during the first five months of the year continued to deteriorate, with a deficit of 641.2 million.

According to this month's Central Bank bulletin "Main Economic Indicators," during the January-May period merchandise exports were \$230.0 million, while imports totaled \$871.2 million.

It shows that during the first five months of 1993, foreign sales represented \$230.0 million, a decline of 6.5 percent from the same period in 1992, when they totaled \$246.0 million.

However, imports increased by 6.1 percent during January to May 1993, climbing to \$871.2 million, compared to \$820.7 million the previous year.

From January to May this year, exports of sugar and its derivatives were approximately \$89.3 million, coffee and coffee products \$12.0 million, cacao and cacao products \$9.4 million, tobacco and tobacco products \$12.9 million, minerals \$41.3 million, and other products \$65.1 million.

However, during the same period in 1992, foreign sales of sugar and derivatives totaled \$74.9 million, coffee and coffee products \$8.0 million, cacao and cacao products \$18.8 million, tobacco and tobacco products \$10.3 million, minerals \$87.5 million, and other products \$46.5 million.

It was observed that despite declining international sugar prices and the permanent reduction in the United States' quotas, the sweetener continues to be our greatest revenue generator.

Second place is held by exports of other products, and third is the mining sector, even though operations at Rosario Dominicana and Ideal Dominicana remain suspended.

However, imports of oil and its derivatives in the first five months of the year were recorded at \$199.3 million, carbon minerals \$4.0 million, food products \$5.3 million—including vegetable shortenings and oils acquired by the National Institute of Price Stabilization (Inespre)—wheat \$18.8 million, and other products \$594.8 million.

For all of 1991, merchandise exports totaled \$658.3 million, falling to \$566.1 million in 1992.

However, imports in 1991 represented \$1.7288 billion, increasing to \$2.1781 billion in 1992.

Observers estimate that the trade deficit could exceed \$1.6 billion for 1993.

The World Bank states in its recent report that the Dominican economy is fragile and vulnerable in the area of foreign trade, and calls for the formulation of an export-oriented strategy.

*** Poll Finds Justice System Corrupt, Incompetent**

93CA0168A Santo Domingo EL SIGLO in Spanish 3
Jul 93 p 5-D

[Article by Jose Tejada Gomez]

[Text] A poll on the Dominican justice system carried out in the National District reveals that 38.3 percent of the population here believes that corruption is the most common negative element within the Government.

The results also show that 47.2 percent of citizens believe that blame for deterioration of the Dominican justice system falls on the Dominican Government, while 21.8 percent blames the Supreme Court of Justice.

Those polled believe that the Government is the sector in national life that creates the most obstacles for reform of the judicial system (31.2 percent).

Twelve percent accuse the political parties, 11.1 percent drug traffickers, 10.7 percent the Supreme Court of Justice, and 7.6 percent the National Congress.

The results of the poll were released by the Marketing and Business Development Company (Mercadesa) and the Justice and Institutional Foundation, led by Dr. Milton Ray Guevara.

The second negative factor influencing the Dominican justice system, according to 25.9 percent of those polled, is the incompetence of the judges.

This is followed by drug trafficking (9.3 percent), low salaries for judges (8.8 percent), politics (6.3 percent), and the lack of economic resources (4.25 percent).

In answer to the question, "How do you feel justice works in this country?" 36.6 percent responded "badly," 30.8 percent "very badly," and 25.3 answered "normal."

Some 2.6 percent believe that justice works well, and 5.1 percent believe very well.

The poll also revealed that 7.1 percent believe that the parties are responsible for deterioration in the justice system; 7.0 percent blame lawyers; 4.7 percent the citizens; 0.5 percent the judges; 4.9 percent the military; 0.2 percent the police; and 0.3 percent the attorney general, senior officials, drug smugglers, and previous governments.

Questioned about other sectors that impede reform of the judicial system, the poll shows that 8.4 percent cite the Justice lawyers and aides; 8.8 percent the military and police; 1.1 percent the unions; 11.1 percent drug addicts; 6.5 percent the rich and businessmen; 0.2 percent the Catholic Church; 1.7 percent citizens; and 0.4 percent cite other factors.

Another question involved whether the person agreed that the constitution of the republic should be reformed to provide for an independent judicial power, for which 77.6 percent answered that they "completely agree," 9.6 percent "agree," 3.9 percent "more or less agree," 6.2 percent "disagree," and 2.7 percent "completely disagree."

The justice system's greatest faults were viewed as follows: acquittals and bribery, 37.9 percent; selling of sentences, 20.7 percent; disregard of release orders, 13.4 percent; delayed judgments, 12.8 percent; politics and persecution, 2.4 percent; money, 9.9 percent; political judges, 0.1 percent; and others, with lower response rates.

Regarding the manner of electing judges, 68.0 percent prefer popular vote; 12.3 percent the Supreme Court of Justice, and 17.0 percent the Senate of the Republic.

Of those polled, 81.9 percent strongly supported a lifetime judiciary, and 9.9 percent merely agreed with it; 90.7 percent strongly supported the creation of a Court of Constitutional Guarantee, and 6.1 percent merely agreed with it.

The poll was taken by the Marketing and Business Development Company (Mercadesa), headed by lawyer Rafael Acevedo, under the auspices of the Institutionality and Justice Foundation (Finjus). Its sample size was 100 people from the National District metropolitan area belonging to the upper class (9.2 percent), middle class (16.0 percent), and lower class (74.8 percent), of which 49.4 percent were women and 50.6 percent men between the ages of 19 and 50.

The majority agreed that the judiciary's economic and social conditions should be improved, through providing such amenities as housing, a car, medical insurance, life and accident insurance, and free education for their children.

Government Decides To Repatriate 76 Illegal PRC Immigrants

PA1008224493 Paris AFP in Spanish 0042 GMT
10 Aug 93

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Aug (AFP)—The Mexican Government decided on 9 August, to "repatriate" 76 undocumented Chinese citizens, 55 of whom illegally entered Mexico from Guatemala, the Mexican Government Secretariat reported.

In a brief news communique, the Government Secretariat reported that the Asians were at La Venta immigration post, located in the southern Oaxaca State. The Chinese citizens were taken to the Huatulco airport to board an aircraft that will return them to China. According to the report, the others had entered Mexico "through several border entrances." The communique, however, does not give the exact date the Chinese citizens entered or how much longer they will remain in the country. It added that the repatriation of the illegal immigrants had been decided "in coordination with the representatives of the PRC Embassy" in Mexico "to ensure the security of the undocumented immigrants as well as full respect for their rights."

During the latter part of July 1993, the Mexican authorities deported 661 Chinese citizens who entered Mexico on board three vessels and whose final destination was the United States. At that time, the Mexican authorities also arrested 17 of the vessels' crew members and charged them with illegally trafficking people; a crime that is punishable with two to 10 years in prison.

* Chiapas 'Guerrilla' Activity Evidence Reviewed

[Article by Guillermo Correa]

[Text] Chiapas—After denying their presence for at least five years, the Secretariat of National Defense (SDN) and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR) have acknowledged evidence that there are guerrillas in Chiapas.

In an official communique dated 31 May the SDN acknowledges: "A group of individuals of indeterminate number, who were presumably engaged in illegal activities," twice attacked military personnel stationed in this state.

It noted that the attack was repelled and that it left one second lieutenant and one enlisted man dead, and one sergeant and one colonel wounded, while "one unidentified civilian lost his life" in the response to the assault.

The incident, it says, took place in unpopulated areas in the municipality of Ocosingo. It reported that the Army arrested 10 persons, eight of them Tzeltal Indians and two Guatemalans, who "were carrying 11 firearms and ammunition of various calibers. The arrested individuals, with their weapons and ammunition," the communique adds, "were arraigned before the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office" in the city of Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas.

Another report that bears the seal of the PGR indicates that the shootout took place on the "Patate Viejo" ejido, where the attackers "were outfitted amid the jungle," adding that "various caliber firearms, .21-caliber rounds, a civilian radio, .41-caliber rounds, and notes and subversive propaganda on Guatemalan guerrilla tactics were seized from them."

The official document says that preliminary inquiry No. 122/1/993 was begun on 24 May 1993 into the crimes of homicide and aggravated assault and battery, violations of the Federal Firearms and Explosives Law, and criminal association, against Mexican citizens Marcos Perez Jimenez, Tiburcio Ruiz Lara, Manuel Clara Ruiz, Antonio Lopez Jimenez, Nicolaz Clara Ruiz, Melchor Jimenez Lopez, Lazaro Perez Lorenzo, and Guatemalan citizens Salvador Mateo Salvador and Andres Salvador Antonio.

On 31 May, the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office extended the criminal action and charged the people being held in Cerro Hueco Prison with two new crimes: "treason and stockpiling weapons." The judge issued the order to hold them for trial "without the existence of a direct charge, though it is obvious that they were involved."

The Penal Code for the Federal District and Territories provides in Article 123, Sections III and VI that the crime of treason is committed by someone who "is part of armed groups directed or advised by foreigners, organized inside or outside the country, when their purpose is to attack the independence of the republic, its sovereignty, its freedom, or its territorial integrity, or to invade the national territory, even if there is no declaration of war." It can also be someone who "in peace or wartime has ties or colludes with a foreign person, group, or government, or gives him/it instructions, information, or advice for the purpose of guiding a possible invasion of national territory or of disturbing the domestic peace."

According to case file No. 4493, the agent of the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Armed Forces who made the charge is Hans Karl Hahne Arias, while the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office is Fernando Saucedo Ramirez.

The person in charge of the VII Military Region is General Miguel Angel Godinez, the former chief of the Presidential Staff.

Testimony from civilian authorities, peasant leaders, and officials of towns on the ejidos where a major military operation was conducted after the 22 May bloody incident charges that Mexican Army personnel "kidnapped" the alleged guerrillas, who they say are just "innocent Indians."

They say that the soldiers have created "a climate of terror" on the ejidos in the jungle, where "they have gone around intimidating and plundering our belongings." They state, and the SDN has not denied it, that "from helicopters they are bombing mountain jungle regions" near their community.

The protests have been sent to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari; the interior secretary and former governor of

Chiapas, Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido; the chairman of the National Commission for Human Rights, Jorge Madrazo Cuellar; and the interim government of Elmar Setzer Marselle.

They ask all of them to have "the military return the Ocosingo peasants."

According to the Army, they were "conducting training maneuvers" in the zone as of 14 May. The "assaults" that left officer Jose Luis Vera de Jesus and enlisted man Librado Santiz Gomez dead and Mauro Garcia Martinez and Lucio Hernandez Zolo wounded took place eight days later.

It adds that the unidentified civilian casualty "was carrying a .223-caliber mini-14" and that "when the search for the rest of the attackers continued, there was a second attack, during which an enlisted man was wounded; he was taken to the Central Military Hospital, where he later died."

The Union of Ejido Unions and Peasant Rural Production Associations reports, for its part, that the human rights violations began at 1000 on 24 May 1993, when the soldiers arrived at the Laguna del Carmen Ejido: "They rounded up the entire population on the basketball court, searched homes, and then randomly selected the eight Indians they are today accusing of killing and wounding the Army personnel. We know that this is a complete violation and an injustice against us. We already have too many problems because of our poverty for them to do this to us," the organization charged.

The Tzeltal Indians reported that when the military activities of the 83d Infantry Battalion, headquartered in San Cristobal de las Casas, continued, dozens of families took refuge as of 25 May in the municipality main town of Ocosingo and that many more fled into the highlands.

The following day, "people entering Ocosingo and Altamirano that morning encountered military checkpoints at which every vehicle was searched for weapons. At the same time, more than 60 truckloads of soldiers surrounded the Venustiano Carranza, Morelia, El Chichon, La Garrucha, and Patate Viejo ejidos, among others."

On 27 May, Lazaro Ruiz, one of the leaders of the union that comprises more than 20,000 peasants from the Chiapas jungle, said the military deployment was stepped up. "Our comrades do not really know whether they are bombs or not, but they have seen the helicopters dropping something that explodes and burns when it hits the ground," he stated.

According to Abelino Bonifaz Monterrosa, the municipal secretary of Altamirano, a second confrontation of "major dimensions" had taken place on 26 May between the alleged guerrillas and the Army.

The shootout, as fourth councilman Abelino Lopez Cruz confirmed, began at 0800 "at the center of El Volcan, on the La Grandeza Ejido."

Bonifaz Monterrosa: "We know that there are some 300 armed individuals in the 28 Altamirano communities and that in Ocosingo the military detected guerrilla training camps."

Jose Arnulfo Perez, the first councilman of Altamirano, stated: "In the communities of La Grandez and Belisario Dominguez the military parachuted from helicopters and scattered all over those ejidos, which are some 35 kilometers from here."

A member of the 24th Motorized Cavalry Regiment, headquartered in Comitán, who asked to remain anonymous, stated: "It is known that six guerrilla training camps have been detected in Altamirano and Ocosingo and that both military personnel and alleged subversives have been wounded in several shootouts."

Around 1 June the peasants' accounts indicated that the wanted individuals were hiding in a cave in the region; that more than 2,000 soldiers were involved in the operation, driving special trucks and even light tanks, and that one of the military camps was set up in the building around the Nazareth oil well in the Lacandona Jungle.

The military deployment that made headlines in the state's major newspapers for several days was never denied by the Secretariat of National Defense.

There was no denial even when at a press conference on 31 May the student representatives of the Social Sciences School of Chiapas Autonomous University voiced their "indignation at the military bombardment of the civilian population in the municipalities of Altamirano and Ocosingo on the pretext that guerrilla groups had emerged in the zone."

As this reporter was headed toward the scene of the events, he noted the heavy military mobilization that was still taking place this past 2 June. Combat vehicles loaded with troops, food, and water were rolling toward Altamirano.

At the checkpoint at the entrance to the municipality main town the soldiers emerged like ants from their tents, blending into the green of the jungle. In a brief chat their commander said that most were youngsters but that he had 24 years of service.

"Where would you rather be, here or over there with the guerrillas?"

"Wherever. The point is not whether we like it here. I would be accused of being a deserter, which is worse than betraying your country."

"They say that there are around 2,000 of you soldiers here."

"Two thousand? No way, there are loads of us."

"Are you here for several days?"

"Yes."

"Have you ever done anything like this before?"

"No, never."

He went on to say: "The poor second lieutenant. He finished his studies at the Military College just three months ago."

Octavio Lopez Rodriguez, a peasant from the Candelaria Ejido: "This business about the guerrilla groups has been around for more than a year. They come from down there, from Guatemala. They say that there ought to be no poor people, that everything should be communal, that if I have a cow and sell it, I ought to share with everyone. But we do not agree with that. The individual is what matters most to me."

"Over in Comitán we have seen a real tall man who goes around with them; he does not even fit in the truck. He always brings guards. He looks like a gringo, but he even speaks Tojolobal."

"Some of my pals say that there are caves with loads of weapons. Just imagine what the situation will be like when entire towns, like Guadalupe Victoria, have clashes between the people in favor and the people against."

"Are you afraid?"

"Nothing is happening to us. We belong to PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] and the CNC [National Peasant Confederation]. No one is afraid."

As far as the wealthy ranchers in this area of Las Canadas, in the Lacandona Jungle, are concerned, the Army was years late in intervening against the "guerrillas who have laid waste to the region."

They unabashedly admit that they asked for the military to intervene. They blame the bishop of San Cristobal de las Casas, Samuel Ruiz, for all their woes, branding him "a rotten old pinko." And they say that for years now they have been asking the apostolic delegate, the pope's representative, Jeronimo Prigione, to have him expelled.

But the Indians who live here defend the bishop. They deny that they are guerrillas and contend that "this is just a pretext to exterminate them and to make the powerful even more so by taking ownership of the entire place," which comprises some 360,000 hectares.

The situation can be described as one in which there are a few "filthy rich" and thousands of impoverished peasants.

The former even wrote a ballad about Samuel Ruiz:

"A damn guerrilla arrived in San Cristobal one 25 January and disguised himself as a bishop.

"He declared himself a communist, machinegun in hand, preaching like an artist and winning over the Christians."

The ranchers also have their song:

"The tired peasants have no stability, because of the promises of the villain who will go to his grave.

"There is conflict in hell because they did not want him there. He wanted to make it communist, and they did not let him."

And then they go overboard with:

"Not even if they burned him alive would he pay for his crimes. He was an active guerrilla, a womanizer, and a scoundrel.

"I will now say good-bye, cursing Samuel. I ask the peasants not to join him."

The Chiapas ranchers have put a price on Bishop Samuel Ruiz's head. They complain of abuses committed against them. They have recorded conversations among peasants over the radio and picked up pamphlets with which they try to show that there are guerrillas in Chiapas. And in letters to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and the military they have requested "military protection" for years. They thus applaud the "antiguerrilla maneuvers" in recent days in the Chiapas jungle.

One of the letters is dated 26 September 1992 and is signed by Consuelo Albores Alfonzo. It reads: "Mr. President, fond greetings from the Council for Women's Integration, which is requesting your intervention, for our municipality and main town (Altamirano), inasmuch as we have been threatened by peasants who have organized to violently throw us all out of our homes, because they believe that they have owned the land for 500 years.

"The women and children are extremely frightened. For this reason the inhabitants of this municipality are moving out. We can tell you that we small landowners and ejido members are united. The group that is doing the threatening is in the minority. They are from another party and are led by some clergymen.

"We once again appeal for your timely intervention, inasmuch as they plan to commit their misdeed before 12 October. We greatly appreciate your intervention."

They level their charges at the Emiliano Zapata Peasant Organization (OCEZ), the Emiliano Zapata Independent Peasant Alliance (AÑCIEZ), the National Coordinator of Indian Peoples (CNPI), the Union of Unions (ARICS), the parish priest of Simojovel, Joel Padron, the nuns at San Carlos Convent and Hospital, and Bishop Samuel Ruiz, among others.

As for guerrilla actions, they mention that in February 1987 the home of Mariano Santiz Gomez, who was later killed, in the "Puerto Rico" estate was looted and burned; that in September of the same year the owners of the El Golfo property were "pistol whipped," and that on 24 August "they cut off Jose Morales Santiz's ears, nose, testicles, and tongue and then burned him and threw him into the river."

In May 1991, they say, Rodolfo Garcia was kidnapped, and people from the El Carrizal Ejido robbed and destroyed his ranch. They say that the same thing happened this year to Angelina Franco Montes de Oca, Ausencia Martinez Alcazary, Ernesto and Tony Ortega, and members of the Tomas Munzer Ejido.

The report that was sent at the time to Governor Jose Patrocinio Gonzalez Blanco Garrido, who is now interior secretary, says that on 23 August 1991 Ernesto Ortega

Gomez, the owner of the El Nacimiento and Acapulco estates, was killed; that several cars driving along the highway were shot up; and that the "attackers were wearing blue uniforms, like the ones that the El Carrizal groups (OCEZ) were seen wearing during other actions, according to preliminary inquiry No. 249/991."

All of the complaints (the list is a long one) by the "victimized" ranchers and small landowners mention the number of the appropriate preliminary inquiry. They speak of other kidnappings, murders, threats, robberies, and burnings of ranches, and above all, "impunity."

Other letters sent to the Office of President of the Republic, copies of which are in PROCESO's possession, indicate that the peasants "want to ignore the existence of legitimate authorities such as the one that you (Carlos Salinas de Gortari) represent."

In all of these letters the wealthy residents of the area ask "that you help us by sending in soldiers to take away the rifles and handguns with which they are threatening us, because we want to live in peace."

Their trump card, however, is a "Guerrilla Communique," addressed to "the people of Mexico," that is circulating in the region.

"Brothers, sisters, comrades: While protecting us, hundreds and thousands of citizens are receiving, handing out, reading, and discussing this communique with enthusiasm and interest, reaffirming a truth that, like an open secret, is jolting the conscience of all Mexicans inside and outside the country.

"The armed revolutionary struggle, the guerrilla struggle exists and is consolidating in our homeland! It is strengthening the hopes that the betrayed revolution of 1910-17, far from thwarting, made clear with new teachings.

"Today, in order for the new revolution that the Mexican people have undertaken to triumph, what is needed is: a historic vanguard party, an army of the people, a powerful mass political movement, a proletarian ideology, political guidelines, a methodology for building the revolution, and a general strategy whose fundamental path is the armed revolutionary struggle (!), and around it, all of the forms of combat that may arise from our people."

The flier, which local ranchers and small landowners submitted to PROCESO, makes mention of Morelos, Flores Magon, Villa, Zapata, Hector Fladio Hernandez Castillo, and Lucio Cabanas Barrientos, who "fell in combat against the Mexican Army."

It emphasizes that "the factors that are giving rise to and motivating the development of the armed revolutionary struggle in our country have intensified." It asks for "a response to the violence practiced by the Mexican Government against the people." It underscores "the poverty in which most people live." It calls for "the takeover of political power, the installation of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the construction of socialism."

It states in its four pages that "the symptoms of a social, revolutionary explosion are advancing and are reflected in the discontent and rebelliousness of a people thirsty for justice and freedom."

The document is dated March 1991. It is signed by the Clandestine Revolutionary Workers Party-Union of the Poor (PROCUP) and the Party of the Poor (PDLF). The ranchers say that since then, "perhaps even from before, the Indians in the region have been indoctrinated."

Jose Luis Aguilar Espinoza, president of the local Ranchers Association in Altamirano: "In 1991 a commission representing the entire state went to talk with Prigione to get the pope to remove Bishop Samuel Ruiz. He said that he was going to look into it."

In a taped interview he asserts that the government has forgotten about the region. He blames the problems of violence on this. He says that the National Solidarity Program (Pronasol) has very little presence here.

"The people in the Union of Unions say that they are fighting for better living standards for the peasants. But that is a lie, just a pretext. Deep down what they want is to take over our lands," he says.

"And what about the presence of the Army, which has supposedly come to help the people?"

"That too is a con. We wanted it here to fight these groups of criminals. Well, the decision was made; the bad part is that they took so long."

What the ranchers and small landowners in this area of the Lacandona Jungle deny is the accusation by the Indian ejido members and communal landowners whom they regard as their enemies, that they "have always had paramilitary groups who loot, burn, and destroy towns and rape our women." The truth, the Indians say, is that the wealthy do not want to hear anything about organizing. "They have exploited us for years. They still enjoy the droit de seigneur. They do what they want with our women. And since the revolution did not make it to Chiapas, they hang those people, who refuse to work, by their thumbs until they die."

"The only thing that we want is a better life, but they get scared when they find out that we want to rise up from slavery. They do not accept the idea that we Indians, with our own organization, can make the land produce, and have no desire to cause trouble. We are human beings too, aren't we?"

Regarding the existence of subversive groups, all of the organizations that are so charged say that if there are any, theirs are not the ones. "The truth is that is just an argument they are using because things can no longer remain the way they were."

In any event, they assert, as the newspaper EL TIEMPO of San Cristobal de las Casas says: "If we all know that poverty produces guerrillas, it would be worthwhile then for Solidarity, not the Army, to really combat poverty."

Miguel Angel de los Santos Cruz, the defense attorney of the Indians who are accused of "betraying the homeland," tells PROCESO: "It is quite surprising how the Army can accuse these individuals of these crimes when a very superficial review of the case files shows that the Indians do not have the slightest idea what happened."

He is convinced that "they are definitely not guerrillas." He reveals that the case is very weak and has been poorly put together by the military authorities, because there are a lot of contradictions. He acknowledges, however, that "the problem is political rather than legal."

Only "the intervention of the National Commission for Human Rights (CNDH)" can bring justice and enable the Tzeltals to achieve freedom. "It is not intervening, however even though it has been asked to, perhaps because the highest military authorities are applying pressure."

In any event, he says, we are going to do whatever can be done. Even we must resort to an amparo. The federal courts must protect them and even then, he says, one cannot hold out much hope.

He charges that the group Minnesota Attorneys, the worldwide champions of human rights who are interested in the case, were in Chiapas and "were not even allowed to see the case file."

De los Santos Cruz relates that on 28 May an order to hold in custody pending trial was issued for five of the defendants while the others were allowed to go free until the trial. "But then the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office requested an extension to add the crimes of criminal

association, weapons possession, homicide, assault and battery, and treason, in order to put them all together in jail."

He comments: "I do not know what the Army's intention is, to intimidate the entire population, to trump up homicide charges, or what."

There is no explanation either of why the "Fray Bartolome de las Casas" Human Rights Commission, which Bishop Samuel Ruiz chairs, has remained silent when in other, less serious cases it is always there to defend the Indians.

And while the incident caused concern on 1 June in the Chamber of Deputies, where PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution] Deputy Jorge Moscoso called for an investigation into it, Governor Elmar Setzer Marselle declared that the Army's work in Chiapas is "worthy of applause" and that "peace and tranquillity prevail" in the state.

On that day the VII Military Region completed its maneuvers in the jungle, where, according to the report, 37 weapons and 1,643 rounds of various calibers were seized and four marijuana plantations were destroyed.

The military bulletin says that the soldiers were engaged only in "social work." It refers to 2,196 medical appointments, 387 dental appointments, 561 haircuts; masonry, carpentry, electrical, and painting work; 47 minor surgeries, 192 injections, and even 48 talks on "cholera prevention."

When they learned of the military report, locals denied that they had been given such social aid. And they charged that the soldiers were still in the region.

El Salvador

Cristiani Comments on FMLN Arms Caches

PA1108004593 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Aug 93

[News conference by President Alfredo Cristiani with unidentified reporters in San Salvador on 9 August; broadcast in progress—recorded]

[Text] ...waiting for the UN certification. Dr. Augusto Ramirez Ocampo is arriving in the country again so we will be fully informed if the United Nations is complying and if the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has or has not abided by the 4 August deadline given by the UN secretary general. In reaction to what has been happening, we feel the FMLN has again not been as sincere and serious about complying. Instead, we feel it has reacted to remarks by those made by Nicaraguan Army Chief General Humberto Ortega and then has had to admit it has more caches in that country. We will wait to see what the United Nations certifies.

We understand one of the groups submitted an additional report within the deadline given and that the recovery and destruction of that cache would take place after 4 August. We will adhere to the position of dealing with the weapons found after 4 August as if it were a common criminal matter and obviously this depends on the United Nations. This way, we will not just handle those who were guarding the weapons, which is what some wanted. If these people involve higher-ups, we will punish all of them to the full extent to the law. We will be waiting for the UN report on the matter.

As for the second question, we will act based on the framework of the Constitution. I understand that the Constitution bans the extradition of a Salvadoran citizen. We cannot break Salvadoran laws. In this case as in any other, we will act within those norms.

Regarding the candidacy to be announced at the meeting [not further specified], I would rather not comment. We are obviously going to unveil a lobbying effort or consultations with all the regional and extraregional governors of the Central American Bank to nominate a Salvadoran representative to the bank. Due to geographic rotation, it is now El Salvador's turn to submit a candidate or candidates. The governors' assembly will decide on the candidacy of Foreign Minister Manuel Pacas. In addition to being a lawyer, he is an economist. If elected, I think he will be a good bank president.

[Reporter] Mr. President, [words indistinct] that there could be more FMLN arms caches in addition to those that have been found?

[Cristiani] If we were to base ourselves on impressions received from something that is uncertain due to the way something has been handled—considering that this has been a matter between the FMLN and the UN Observers for El Salvador [ONUSAL] and ONUSAL has not reported anything to us—the impression is that the FMLN has

reacted to statements by Nicaraguan General Humberto Ortega that there are caches by admitting that there are more arms caches; apparently, however, this was done somewhat late. This would give the impression that the FMLN did not include all its weapons.

The government's position remains the same: The full weight of the law will fall on whomever is found in possession of weapons or is involved in weapons ownership, whether it is to use them, traffick them, sell them, or whatever.

[Reporter] Mr. President, an FMLN leader said last week that the FMLN has complied with the UN secretary general's demands and has delivered a map with full details on FMLN weapons. The same FMLN leader said that the government has not complied with its commitment to present an inventory involving more than 8,000 weapons the Army seized from the FMLN during the war years. Would you like to comment?

[Cristiani] First, I am not going to confirm or deny anything this FMLN spokesman, whoever he might be, may say about whether they have complied with their commitments. We will wait for the UN report on this to see what the United Nations has to say about the FMLN delivering all of its weapons.

In my previous answer I talked about the impression one receives when one does not know about the work carried out by the United Nations in this regard. Dr. Ramirez Ocampo will arrive in the country today and will inform us about it.

Regarding your second question, we can call their claim a last-ditch effort; that is, an attempt to ease pressure by making charges. The Armed Forces have an inventory on the arms that were seized. Those weapons form part of the police arsenal.

FMLN Accuses Cristiani of Exploiting Arms Cache Issue

PA1008204293 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Aug 93

[From the "Noticiero al Dia" program]

[Text] On 9 August, Leonel Gonzalez, leader of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], accused President Alfredo Cristiani of using the topic of weapons still in the hands of former guerrillas for electoral purposes. Meanwhile, Nationalist Republican Alliance and Christian Democratic Party politicians recommended that the FMLN stop lying and surrender the arms caches they have hidden.

Leonel Gonzalez, secretary general for the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces, FPL, accepted that the organization did not comply with the peace agreements in the area of weapons destruction but said that this point must be balanced against the fact that the other side has also violated the pacts.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] Regarding noncompliance with the peace agreements, I believe that the government has a less favorable position on compliance. True, there has been noncompliance by the FMLN but what the people have clear in their minds is that the FMLN does not have the weapons to start a war in El Salvador. The FMLN has now become a political party and we will act as such. [end recording]

Contrary to official reports on additional FPL weapons caches, the former guerrilla leader said that most of the materiel was destroyed and that the FPL completed its turnover on 29 July.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] We, as the FPL, have shut down. On 29 July, we handed over everything we had in El Salvador. We are now handing over some weapons that were in Honduras and some weapons that were on the border between Honduras and Nicaragua. [end recording]

The FMLN's sincerity, however, is viewed with caution by some politicians, who say that if the FMLN lied once it will continue to lie. Other politicians recommend that the former rebels indicate the places where weapons could still be hidden.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] The FMLN should list all the places where there are other arms caches.

[Second unidentified speaker] If they lied to the UN secretary general, all the more reason to lie to the Salvadoran people. [end recording]

Aside from statements by politicians, Leonel Gonzalez warned that legal action will be taken against those sectors that lie regarding the controversial arms topic.

Onusal Says 90 Percent of FMLN Weapons Inventory Destroyed

PA1008042193 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] It was officially reported on 9 August, that the UN Observers for El Salvador, Onusal, had inspected and destroyed 90 percent of the war materiel included in the new FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] weapon inventory. According to an Onusal communique, it had inspected 41 arms cache located on our national territory, two caches in Honduras, and five in Nicaragua.

The new process to inspect and destroy the FMLN weapons is based on a FMLN commitment to the United Nations after a clandestine cache was found in Managua, Nicaragua. The agreement reached by the FMLN with the United Nations stipulated that this process had to be completed on 4 August. The international mission reported that the task of inspecting and destroying FMLN weapons in countries other than El Salvador could probably end on 9 August. In El Salvador, the work will continue until 18 August.

The communique claimed that the delay in completing this task was due to the FMLN's delay in presenting an inventory, the difficulty in locating the caches, the poor conditions of part of the war materiel, and the way the caches were scattered in the region.

The UN inspection mission will host a news conference in the following days to give updated information on the disposal of the last FMLN weapons inventory.

Honduras

President, Military Command Reject Rebellion Rumors

PA1008160893 Tegucigalpa Telesistema Hondureno Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Report by Adolfo Hernandez]

[Text] On the afternoon of 9 August, the military high command denied rumors of an alleged rebellion in the Armed Forces against General Luis Alonso Discua.

Radio broadcasts have been reporting that Air Force installations have been seized by young officers opposed to the situation inside those installations.

Colonels [Jorge Alberto] Puerto and [Francisco] Bustillo Murcia, among others, have been mentioned as being involved, but General Reynaldo Andino, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and highest ranking officer in the absence of the commander of the Armed Forces, has said that a thorough investigation has been made of this information. Gen. Andino said this report constitutes psychological warfare. Those, who provided the false information to radio newsmen, must be identified so that the conspiracy's origins can be established. He said that newsmen are being used by people interested in creating chaos.

People around the country were speculating today that Discua is surrounded by unhappy officers, ever since he overlooked three entire groups due for promotion to make room for younger officers now in control of the armed institution he commands.

We have always known the Armed Forces to be a political entity. Promotions are big politics in Honduras. Abrupt changes since the fall of former Armed Forces Commander in Chief Gen. Gustavo Alvarez are evidence that we are not mistaken.

Since the days of Gen. Lopez and those of Melgar, Alvarez Martinez, Walter Lopez, and Cantaredo, only Paz Garcia and Regalado Hernandez have concluded their terms as scheduled.

We secured last-minute information from President Leonardo Callejas on this important matter when he arrived today at Cofradia, Francisco Morazan Department.

[Begin Callejas recording] I was in a helicopter listening to a radio report as we were heading for this town. As far as I know there has been and there is nothing happening in the Air Force. I have no information from the Air Force

commander or from the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Andino. I have been in touch with them throughout the day for other reasons, and there is nothing indicating that what the media has reported is true. I think these are just rumors. [end recording]

Further on Rumor of Rebellious Air Force Officers

PA1108013693 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish
10 Aug 93 p 3

[Report by Armando Villanueva]

[Text] Officers of the Honduran Air Force, who are members of the eighth graduation class, reportedly rebelled 9 August to protest their being overlooked by Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, radio stations have reported. This claim was immediately dismissed, however, by acting Commander in Chief Gen. Reynaldo Andino Flores.

Discua is in Western Sahara visiting Honduran troops that are in that African country as part of a UN contingent. He is scheduled to return 12 or 13 August.

Radio broadcasts claimed the eighth graduation class disagrees with the way the hierarchy is handling the military institution, and as a result, its members in the Air Force decided to rebel. They claim Discua is "intentionally delaying programmed changes" with the deliberate purpose of stopping the aspirations of the eighth graduation class to control the Army and Air Force. Discua reportedly does not want members of the eighth graduation class to occupy posts currently in the hands of members of the ruling sixth graduation class.

The same sources claim the eighth graduation class wants Colonel Oscar Servellon Morales, the current Air Force chief of staff, to occupy the post of Air Force commander. They are proposing Cols. Roberto Lazarus and Jose Luis Nunez Bennet, both of the eighth graduation class, for the post of Army commander general to replace Gen. Guillermo Paredes Hernandez, who would occupy the post of military attache in Spain as of 1 January.

Discua plans to appoint, however, his graduation classmate Col. Hector Rene Fonseca as Army commander. The sources are predicting a very serious crisis within the Armed Forces should Discua not yield to the aspirations of the eighth graduation class.

Only the Public Security and Naval Forces are in the hands of the eighth graduation class, which is also known as "Lempira Graduation Class." The first is commanded by Col. Mario Hung Pacheco, and the second by Giordano Bruno Fontana.

Other members of the eighth graduation class are officers Gustavo Flores Valeriano; Cristobal Corrales Calix; Carlos Sanabria Oyuela; Luis Alonso Villatoro; Hector Aguilar Claros; Jose Luis Soto Ponce; Jose Maria Pineda Colato; Cesar Zelaya Estrada; Jose Santos Ortes Pena; Jose Bustillo Murcia; Guillermo Pinel Calix; and Alberto Urcina.

Nunez Bennet has served as director of the Armed Forces Command and Staff School since returning from Argentina, where he was limited to serving as military attache. Lazarus is Public Security Forces chief of staff, a post considered unimportant due to his officer status.

All members of the current military hierarchy, including Discua and except for Hung Pacheco and Bruno Fontana, are members of the sixth graduation class.

There are members of that class, however, who are not occupying important posts for various reasons. They are Cols. Mario "El Tigre" Amaya; Erick Sanchez; Osiris O'Connor; Lazaro Avila Soleno; and Alvaro Antonio Romero Salgado.

President Foresees Heightened Animosity During Elections

PA1008192693 Tegucigalpa Telesistema Hondureno
Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Report by Walter Fajardo; from the "Hoy Mismo" program]

[Text] President Callejas said on 9 August that a great deal of animosity will be generated by the next elections. He made reference to the statements by former President Jose Azcona [16-second break in reception] the afternoon of 9 August, President Rafael Leonardo Callejas gave important statements on different topics of national interest, particularly political issues.

Callejas defended himself from accusations by former President Azcona Hoyos, who, speaking on a radio program, threatened to put him in jail after his term expires for endorsing Oswaldo Ramos Soto.

[Begin Callejas recording, in progress] ...particularly after some leaders of the Liberal Party of Honduras (PLH) have threatened to put me in jail after my term in office expires. I listened to a program called "Counterpoint" on Radio America, where a PLH deputy accompanied by a former president said clearly that I would go to jail. I still do not know why. If I have committed some crime, they should file charges in court.

I think that they are moving the political campaign toward levels of confrontation and sectarianism that have not existed for many years. I feel that some people, who say they favor moral ways and moral revolutions, are generating hate, sectarianism, and passions. [end recording]

Callejas provided statistics to support some of his statements.

[Begin Callejas recording] In 1989, to give you an idea—I asked for the figures purposely because I wanted to analyze them the morning of 9 August—in Agua Caliente customs house revenues totaled 7.4 million lempiras. In 1990, one year later, revenues doubled, totaling 14 million lempiras. I wonder who kept those 7 million lempiras? Could it be the people who were accompanying and supporting him [not further identified]? [end recording]

Finally, regarding the economy and the current price war for basic market prices, Callejas' statements were categorical.

[Begin Callejas recording] It appears that during the election period, everyone wants to increase prices and blackmail the government. We will not tolerate this. [end recording]

In this regard, the president asserted that on 9 August he authorized the importation of over 100,000 quintals of rice to stop price speculation on this product.

Nicaragua

Lacayo on Cosep Remarks, Ownership, Other Topics

PA0808154893 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo has commented on the topics of ownership, relations between church and state, and possible talks between UNO [National Opposition Union] and the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front].

Accepting an invitation by a group businessmen, who have made investments to increase production and thus help generate jobs and economic development, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo commented on remarks made by Cosep [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] President Ramiro Gurdian.

[Lacayo] "I belonged to Cosep and the Industry Chamber for many years. I think the big internal debate, a fraternal one to be sure, always dealt with the role of those groups. For a long time, many people said the chambers should basically play a entrepreneurial role. The businessmen, who are here today at the Pepsi Cola plant inaugurating new production lines, are members of the (?Calvo) family. We have just seen they are increasing production and will soon penetrate the foreign market. These businessmen are like those at (Fovelsa) because they are increasing production, as we will see in a few hours.

"These people want to have and do have excellent relations with our government, ministers, and various government entities. It turns out, however, that the leaders of these groups also broach political topics when they meet behind closed doors. They often come up with suggestions, which on other occasions have produced results that they have come to regret later on. Remember that in 1979 Cosep members participated in something that the immense majority of them regretted later. We hope this will not happen now."

He said he was pleased about the possibility that UNO and the FSLN will begin talks.

[Lacayo] "Let me tell you quite frankly that it is excellent that the FSLN and UNO will hold talks. This has been our objective for the past three years. In particular, this has

been particularly the president's objective since May, when the national dialogue began. She wants Nicaraguans, chiefly those who cannot speak to each other, to hold talks. When we called the national dialogue, for example, we were unable, at least not in May or June, to get UNO people to participate in the talks. They did not want to hold talks with FSLN politicians. Now, I get the impression that we have achieved this."

Commenting on ownership, he said this problem will be gradually resolved.

[Lacayo] "Here we are at the Pepsi Cola plant. The previous government took over the company in the last decade. We have given this company back to its legitimate owners. Based on the privatization agreement of December 1991, 11.3 percent of the company now belongs to workers. They are pleased; I have talked to them. This is an example of the government's view on ownership. Things should be returned to their legitimate owners as long as they are in government hands. What had been transferred to peasants through land reform cannot be returned. We have to pay compensation to the owners. That is why we are now paying compensation."

This what Lacayo said regarding relations between the Catholic Church and the state:

[Lacayo] "Relations between the government and the church have been excellent these past three years. Since they are the spiritual leaders of the Catholic faithful, we greatly respect the church hierarchy and expect them to hold the same respect for the government, since it is the government of this nation." He said he would support having [words indistinct] to the United States to obtain the release of economic aid to Nicaragua. He said the economic commission will submit the draft of a document to economists for discussion soon.

[Lacayo] "This is to see if they can support and help us by giving us ideas where they feel corrections have to be made and by conveying their concerns so we can have a document that is more solid, national, and belongs to all of us. This is the document we would submit to international organizations."

* Commentary Calls for Ban on Aleman's Party

93CA0166B Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 16 Jul 93 p 8

[Ramon Tellez Morales commentary]

[Text] The political demonstration staged last Sunday by the Constitutionalist Liberal Party illustrated two important points, among others. Because these points are made so often, they may go unnoticed:

1. If a person has something to give, what he has is not supporters, but an audience. It does not matter what he is giving; it could just as easily be alms as booze, *nacatamales*, *bolis*, or transportation. If everything is free, there will be plenty of people in attendance.

As the old saying goes, "money talks." That is a fact. The pitiful demonstration staged by the Independent Liberal Party (PLI) led, on that same day at that same time, by Dr. Godoy, without the resources of City Hall, eloquently illustrates this point.

2. It is true that people have poor memories; indeed, they have terrible memories.

The Nationalist Liberal Party (PLN), disguised as the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, was also seen promoting the return of Somoziism in an extraordinarily blatant way, joyously welcoming, under their banners, the most odious vestiges of that past of opprobrium, blood, tears, and plundering.

They want our people to forget that the Somozas and the Nationalist Liberal Party (read: Constitutionalist Liberal Party) were organically united, even down to molecular fusion, to the extent that even today, their presumptive heirs cannot prevent their political demonstrations, complete with bullet-proof vests, from being eminently Somozist.

It is incredibly stupid to let the Nationalist Liberal Party, now disguised as the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, continue participating in national political life without at least atoning for its sins by being banned for 25 years. A party that was criminal and that has proven through its actions that it is still criminal should be treated as such.

They should not come to us with those cock and bull stories about how Somozism was one thing and the honest, lofty pedigrees of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party are quite another. That party ceased to exist in fact after the elections from which Dr. Juan Bautista Sacasa emerged victorious. And if now they are exhuming his remains, it is just to put them to work for the detritus of Somozism.

If the goal is to preserve the country's health and strengthen its incipient democracy, it is not only necessary but also imperative that these malignant tumors be removed, even if it takes a scalpel to do so. Otherwise, we will face some bitter days in the near future.

Ramon Tellez Morales Managua, 15 July 1993

* 'Entrepreneurial Spirit' of FSLN Questioned

93CA0166A Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish
15 Jul 93 p 4

[Carlos Vicente Roman R. commentary]

[Text] This 19 July we Sandinists are planning to celebrate the 14th anniversary of the Sandinist People's Revolution.

The circumstances surrounding this celebration are extremely difficult. These include dire poverty, unemployment, tremendous setbacks in health, housing, and education, a lack of political credibility on the part of the government and political parties in general, unfulfilled government promises and a sterile dialogue, rearmad soldiers seeking to force the fulfillment of broken promises,

rampant robbery, murder, and drug addiction, and the worst government corruption ever seen in our history.

Nonetheless, we will stage a historic celebration this 19 July. It will be a show of strength against the disguised Somozism of liberals and democrats.

With a view to strengthening the organic unity of our party, the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), without ignoring the general crisis in our society, we must reflect on a few thoughts.

Since the loss of the elections, the FSLN has undergone a severe internal crisis that has led it to engage in political duality. On the one hand, it claims to be defending popular interests, while on the other hand, it negotiates and reaches consensus, or whatever you want to call it, with the government. The affinity is so great that there has been talk of co-government. The party rank and file and the people feel that the FSLN is losing touch with them.

Like it or not, the membership's participation in party activities has changed significantly; a vacuum has been felt in the leadership, and the distance between the National Directorate (DN) and the rank and file has grown. The leaders of the DN and of the Sandinist Assembly or cadres of the National Assembly have turned a deaf ear to the clamor of the rank and file and of the people, and have refused to give clear answers in response to their cries.

It is only in this context that the validity and truth of the pronouncement of the 29 FSLN members can be fully appreciated. The pronouncement sets forth the mistakes that have been made and issues an appeal to begin a serious correction in the party leadership. It is an appeal to rectify the errors in practice, with actual deeds, to take up once again the defense of the people's interests as the party's main premise and historic position, to go back to our political roots.

It calls upon people to lead popular, trade association, and labor struggles, rather than to take control of them, to be true to political and ideological principles in their political actions.

I have always believed that the class composition of the party has distorted its class position. It is the internal balance of power, rather than the composition, that has promoted this distortion in the class position. Entrepreneurs, both old and new, have prevailed, so that economic interests have dictated the policy on alliances and the decisions made by the leadership.

The 19 comrades call for a correction of this dynamic in their proclamation when they say they are demanding "an organic FSLN leadership that is compatible with this commitment." The problem lies in determining whether it is possible to make such a correction with the current leadership, which has allowed and fostered the party's entrepreneurial spirit. We must debate whether the current organic leadership has outlived its usefulness.

This debate is necessary not only to prevent entrepreneurial considerations from prevailing and to allow access to the

party's top leadership body, but also to determine the character and ideological essence of the party, and to define the class interests that are to be defended. It is also important to draw up a political plan of action and an economic platform that regards the Constitution as an essential element in the definition of the economic model to follow, that strikes a balance between fiscal policy and the collective well-being, that reverses the current tax system, that democratizes property ownership, and that fulfills its social function as stipulated in the Constitution.

The debate should also address what kind of relationship should be established with the United States. We identify with these comrades, and we urge them to give organic continuity to their proposals, to bring the discussion to the rank and file, and to achieve the objectives of political-ideological unity and an FSLN that will truly defend popular interests.

On this 19 July, let us take the opportunity to reaffirm with enthusiasm our conviction that we will be able to meet the historic challenge of building a just, democratic, sovereign, and free society with the FSLN at the head.

Managua, 13 July 1993

Panama

President Endara Says Agenda Open for Honduras Talks

PA1008192293 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Report by Jose Garibaldi from Tocumen International Airport in Panama City—live]

[Text] We are here at Tocumen Airport, where President Endara is about to board a plane for Honduras. Endara will discuss business issues with the Honduran president. In this regard, Endara said:

[Begin recording] [Endara] There is no agenda. This is a return state visit for President Callejas' visit last year. It is a diplomatic tradition that when a president visits a country, the president from that country must pay a return visit. Callejas came to visit me and I am committed to visit Honduras. I am very pleased to fulfill this commitment because relations between Honduras and Panama are excellent.

We have no set agenda because President Callejas and I are very good friends. There are many issues we have to discuss. I know we are going to talk about issues like bananas, Central American affairs, and possibly energy. As you know, they sometimes have extra energy, and with the expansion of La Fortuna Hydroelectric Power Plant, we will also have extra energy. This will permit us to help each other in energy affairs.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, Intel [National Institute of Telecommunications] Director Francisco Denis Duran has said that Mr. Felix Ochy is implicated in the scandal of Bayano Cement Company [words indistinct] \$610,000 using illegal means. What can you tell us about that?

[Endara] Well, I have never liked Mr. Ochy very much. He is not my employee; he is an employee of the comptroller general. Therefore, the comptroller general must make a decision on this.

[Reporter] How do you view these actions [words indistinct]?

[Endara] Listen, the financial deal in Bayano Cement Company was not illegal but I did not like it. I did not like the financial deal but it was not illegal.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Endara] Since he is an employee.... [pauses] I already did my part because the Bayano Cement Company manager had the courtesy—for which I thank him—of tendering his resignation, which I accepted. As far as I am concerned, I have already done the sad part I was forced to do but the comptroller general will have to take some action.

[Reporter] Mr. President, to conclude this interview, there was talk about a possible split in the ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] after you said in Chiriqui that you would support Mrs. Mireya Moscoso de Gruber for the presidency. What can you tell us about this?

[Endara] I do not think there is a break in the ADOC. I believe that the union among the government parties is strong. I believe that each party has the right to state its aspirations. Government parties know that I am an Arnulfist and I have treated them generously. But they know that I am an Arnulfist and I can and must have a party preference. Other parties will do the same, and we—not I—are going to have to sit down at a table to work out a solution to their aspirations. [end recording]

Argentina

U.S. Pressure Denied in Condor-2's 'Mastermind' Case

PY1108032293 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS
ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1959 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Aug (NA)—Brigadier General Juan Paulik, Air Force chief of staff, stated today that Commodore Miguel Guerrero, who is now on a leave of absence, could remain with the Air Force "under military terms." He noted, however, that "no Air Force organization is undertaking any mission in the field that is best known to this officer."

Paulik denied that the United States had pressured him to grant a leave of absence to Guerrero, who is considered to be the "mastermind" of the now-dismantled Condor-2 missile project.

Paulik said: "No one has influenced my decision concerning Guerrero's leave of absence." He added that there had been no pressure "to separate Guerrero or anyone else from the Air Force."

In remarks after a ceremony marking Air Force Day, Paulik stated that Guerrero's case "is in no way related to the defense of the national sovereignty." He described Guerrero's request for a leave of absence as "a personal decision" by the officer.

Asked about the possibility of Guerrero receiving a job offer abroad in which he could apply his Condor-2 know-how, Paulik said that would be Guerrero's "personal problem." He noted, however, that "if he acts as an Argentine citizen who is somehow trying to defend his fatherland, he will not do that."

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Di Tella 'Convinced' Falklands Will Be Recovered

PY1008182093 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network
in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] I am convinced that we will recover the Malvinas Islands, and that I will live to see it.

This remark was made in Ushuaia by Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella who, along with Tierra del Fuego Governor Jose Arturo Estabillio, signed this morning an agreement to establish a commission on information and consultation on issues involving this province and tied to the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands, and Antarctica, which lie within the provincial limits.

The agreement establishes that in this commission Tierra del Fuego Province, Antarctica, and the South Atlantic islands will be represented by its governor or a person appointed by the governor, and the Foreign Ministry will be represented by the foreign minister or a person appointed by him. The commission will also include the appropriate officials and advisers.

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Bolivia

Castro Urges Latin American Integration Before Departure

PY1008140293 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro left the country yesterday. He expressed gratitude for the sympathy and welcome given by the Bolivian people.

Castro, who met yesterday with the media in one of his last public appearances, called on the countries of the continent for Latin American integration in order to be able to face the onslaught of the large powers together. He said that Bolivia had sent a message to the world despite the lies, slander, and systematic campaign against Cuba. Castro said this is why he expressed his admiration and respect for the noble Bolivian people.

[Begin Castro recording in progress] [words indistinct] I was able to fulfill a great part of the interviews and speeches covering different sectors. Therefore, [words indistinct] I am very much satisfied [words indistinct]. [end recording]

New Foreign Minister Outlines Foreign Policy Guidelines

PY1108004293 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2127 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] La Paz, 9 Aug (EFE)—New Bolivian Foreign Minister Antonio Aranibar, upon taking over his new post today, regretted that the United Nations and the Security Council are having serious problems in finding a peaceful solution to the conflicts affecting the world.

Minister Aranibar, who is one of President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada's 10 cabinet ministers, gave some guidelines on Bolivian foreign policy in his speech taking over the ministry.

He said the government's intention is to carry out a foreign policy strategy of permanent consultation with political, economic, and social agents to make the policy a genuine expression of the nation's interest as a whole.

Aranibar announced the implementation of a "multilateral approach" in the "undeniable desire for access to a sovereign and useful coast" on the Pacific Ocean based on reason, not force."

Bolivia has a 100-year-old claim for a sea coast after losing its territory on the Pacific, but so far its bilateral or multilateral efforts have ended up in failure and frustration.

Aranibar said: "Multilateral action is one of the most effective ways for the developing countries to propose and achieve their objectives jointly."

He proposed the definition of the regional integration process based "on real objectives and similar political and economic" policies of the countries.

He said that although Latin America has been able to overcome rhetoric and the inertia of regional agreement and integration, it has not yet been able "to give a joint strategic answer to the new international 'disorder.'"

Aranibar, who is the leader of the leftist Free Bolivia Movement (MBL), said bilateral relations will be strengthened with all "friendly countries." He added that economic relations also will be enlarged and strengthened and that "its main element will be access to its markets and the negotiation of broad agreements of economic complementation."

Aranibar concluded by saying that the complexity of the development of events in international policy requires, "more than ever, a coherent, responsible, and permanent foreign policy with clear objectives and the support of capable institutional mechanisms." (endall) 092127 /L/ czach/cr sr211008.09 11/0042z Aug

Brazil

Cardoso Rejects 'Draconian' Measures To Curb Inflation

PY1008182293 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Aug 93 Economy and Business Section p 9

[Article by Brasilia correspondent Ribamar Oliveira]

[Text] During the past week, Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso made it clear to his interlocutors within the government and in political spheres that he will not play "the Mailson of Itamar Franco." This means that they should not expect him to adopt the famous beans and rice policy implemented by former Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega when Jose Sarney's administration [1985-90] was coming to a close. One of Cardoso's main aides stated that "if he lacks the political support to implement his economic policy, he will leave."

Mailson da Nobrega's beans and rice policy, implemented after the failure of the Summer Plan, was a sort of a tacit compromise agreement between all the political factions within the government, which pretended it was combating inflation when in fact it was stalling for time, trying to maintain some control over the economy until the inauguration of Sarney's successor.

Impatience

Cardoso, who yesterday was in Sao Paulo, although he declined to give an interview, is coming up against nervousness in the government's political allies, who are beginning to lose patience with the results obtained by Fernando

Henrique Cardoso's plan to curb inflation. Pedro Simon (PMDB-RS) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party—Rio Grande do Sul], the government leader in the Senate, acknowledges that "there is indeed a growing impatience." Nevertheless, Simon finds it odd that political parties are not giving Cardoso either the time or the conditions that they have already granted to previous finance ministers. "It seems they want shock measures now, only to subsequently mess them up," he said.

The economic team considers the aforementioned jitters and impatience normal. One of Cardoso's aides contends that "the appointment of Cardoso as finance minister created an exaggerated euphoria. We may now be on the right path toward achieving a balance."

Despite being under pressure to implement more drastic measures to combat inflation, Cardoso spent the whole of the past week saying over and over again that he will not perform any conjuring tricks, and that the outlines of the program to check inflation are those that were announced in his plan.

A member of the economic team argues that "not even 80 days have elapsed, and we have already managed to get a surplus of \$14.3 billion in government accounts." The foregoing figure includes a \$6-billion cutback in this year's budget, a \$2.6-billion cut in investments by government-owned enterprises, an estimated \$2.7 billion in the collection of the provisional tax on financial operations, and an estimated \$3-billion increase in revenues due to the so-called "cops' car effect"—the fight against tax evasion currently being implemented by Federal Revenue Secretary Osiris de Azevedo Lopes Filho.

Expectations

Finance Ministry experts are of the opinion that the aforementioned figures would be enough to prove to Brazilians that, now that the government is putting its own house in order, there is no sufficient reason for inflation to go up in the forthcoming months.

The reasoning of Cardoso's economic team is similar to that of former Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira [finance minister during Fernando Collor's administration], who reduced inflation from 30 percent to 18 percent [a month] without having to conjure a rabbit out of a hat. He managed to do so by decisive action on market expectations and with a stringent monetary policy.

Advisers to Cardoso noted that inflation began to go up again when citizens became aware that the impeachment of former President Fernando Collor would entail the removal of Marques Moreira. This caused expectations, which in turn fueled inflation.

Cardoso is thus going to follow in Marques Moreira's footsteps in his fight against inflation. The finance minister asserted last week that there will be neither draconian measures nor a "second stage" to his economic plan.

The problem with this reasoning is that factors which economists tend to call seasonal, as well as the adjustment

in public utility rates, will push inflation up in the next two or three months. There will be, as is the case every year, pressure on prices between harvests. Moreover, the government has been increasing the price of fuel, telecommunications, and public utility rates at levels higher than the inflation rate.

Economic Policy Secretary Winston Fritsch concedes that "we are going to have slight pressure in the next two months; but everything is going to hinge on how the economic plan is being implemented and on expectations with regard to the tax reform."

Lack of Feeling

Cardoso's team has come under fire from other ministries, and even from Planalto Palace, for the lack of political feeling evinced over the last 30 days. First, the Finance Ministry did not believe that Congress would enact a law on a monthly wage adjustment equivalent to the inflation rate.

This is the reason why it rejected the proposal of Roberto Freire, government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, who tried to convince Cardoso and Social Security Minister Antonio Britto to accept a bimonthly wage adjustment equation equivalent to 80 percent of the inflation rate. Freire's initiative was discreetly supported by President Itamar Franco. It did not prosper, though.

The solution that was finally worked out for a wage policy, which provides for an adjustment equation equivalent to the rate of inflation minus 10 percent, did not originate at the Finance Ministry. It was an adviser to the Social Security Ministry, Luciano Patricio, who came up with the aforementioned formula to put an end to the controversy between the Finance Ministry and government leaders in Congress, who threw in their lot with Labor Minister Walter Barelli.

National Defense Council Meeting Ends; Communique Issued

PY1108012293 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Live report by Luiz Augusto Mendonca from Planalto Palace]

[Text] The National Defense Council meeting convened by President Itamar Franco has just ended here at Planalto Palace. The government will equip—in a period of five to eight years—the entire northern region to guarantee security and the sovereignty of the Amazon region.

At this moment, the Presidential Press Secretariat has just released a communique that reads as follows:

The National Defense Council, at the meeting held this afternoon here in Brasilia, views the following:

A. The control of the Brazilian Amazon region is the exclusive responsibility of Brazil. The exercise of this sovereign control is compatible with mankind's view of the Amazon provided that it is deprived of all its tales, myths, and errors.

B The control system of the Amazon region, that is, sensors and communications and data processing systems, interconnected with the implementing authorities, that is, federal and state police, Ibama [Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources], Funai [National Indian Foundation], the Federal Revenue Office, and the Armed Forces, will be a useful instrument to repress illegal actions and to control the environment and Indian reservations, and also to monitor the use of land and waters, an orderly population, and guarantees for sustainable development. Moreover, it also will contribute to guaranteeing air transport.

In the communique released by the Presidential Press Secretariat, the National Defense Council also states that the involved organizations must continue their studies, projects, and consultations to thoroughly verify the financial, technical, and operational feasibility of the system, the implementation of which will be extended five to eight years.

Thus, the government will equip—in five to eight years—the entire northern region to guarantee security and the sovereignty of the Amazon region.

Angola's UNITA Accuses Brazil of Meddling in Civil War

PY1008213293 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Aug 93 Section 3 p 4

[Article by Leao Serva from London]

[Text] The Angolan rebel movement UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has accused Brazilians of advising the Angolan Government's Army in that country's civil war. Isaias Samakuva [name as published], UNITA's representative in the United Kingdom, told FOLHA DE SAO PAULO: "We have information that Brazilians have given logistical support to the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] in the Soyo battle."

The city of Soyo is located in the center of an oil-rich region in northern Angola where the Brazilian state enterprise Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] has exploration contracts. The area, which has been cordoned off by UNITA since the end of 1992, was taken and changed hands several times until it fell under rebel control on 26 May.

During that time, UNITA threatened reprisals against the oil companies working in the Soyo area if they "collaborated with the enemy." The organization did not cite Braspetro [Petrobras International, Inc.], the Petrobras subsidiary that is exploring the area with Texaco (United States), Total (France), and the Angolan state oil enterprise Sonangol.

When asked whether UNITA has submitted a formal complaint to the Brazilian Government at the United Nations, as it has done on other occasions, Samakuva said no because the reports have not "been confirmed."

"They are reports that have been submitted by our intelligence, in which we trust, but we do not have the final proof," he said. The previous complaints occurred when UNITA could submit proof because it had captured Brazilian weapons and combat vehicles together with government soldiers.

"When we complain regarding military supplies, Brazil alleges that it is old equipment, but there are always new indications and I have no way of proving the equipment's age. But I do know it is Brazilian," Samakuva said.

He also made a similar comparison regarding the information on men. "I do not know whether they are soldiers or mercenaries, but the information we have indicates that they are Brazilian." These indications of support for the MPLA fuel UNITA's hostility toward Brazil.

At 46, 19 of them with UNITA, Samakuva has a key role: that of the organization's ambassador in the United Kingdom, a country that was one of the main sources of financing for the guerrillas during the Cold War. He is an accountant by profession.

Samakuva is also the person with whom the Brazilian Government speaks in order to try and keep a door open with the organization that controls the majority of Angolan territory: 80 percent today after a series of victories.

Regarding the future of bilateral relations between Brazil and Angola if UNITA comes to power, Samakuva has a diplomatic answer: "We view the Brazilian Government's hostility with displeasure because we have always considered Brazil a country with strong cultural ties with Angola."

He stresses that several Brazilian enterprises with business in his country have sought out UNITA to tell it: "They are not interested in politics and that all they do is their job." It is his belief that this also should be the Brazilian Government's position. "Governments must remember that they come and go, but society always remains."

Chile

President Submits Bill To Implement Treaty With Peru

PY1108023393 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin has submitted to Congress a bill concerning the payment of compensation for some areas in the piece of land known as El Chinchorro and other topics agreed upon by Chile and Peru on 11 May.

In his message, the president states that the agreement—along with others—were concluded on that date with Peru on the occasion of the negotiations and signing of the accords that seek to implement the pending clauses of the Lima Treaty of 1929.

The agreement under consideration deals with the current status of a Peruvian piece of land, which is located in Arica and known by the name of El Chinchorro. With regard to some areas of El Chinchorro, the agreement provides for

payment of compensation for the use and transfer of such areas, and also for the type of use given to the land.

It should be noted that the Peruvian Government has agreed to broadening the North Pan-American highway in the El Chinchorro area, and to building the Park of Accord in the eastern part of the lot. The park will remain open to the public.

The president asked that the bill be studied with top priority. The message was signed by Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma and President Aylwin.

* Trends Within Church Hierarchy Analyzed

93SM0359A Santiago LA NACION (SEGUNDO CUERPO Sunday Supplement) in Spanish 11 Jul 93 pp 1-3

[Article by Felipe Pozo]

[Text] Many eyes are turned toward the Catholic Church. Or, more precisely, in the direction of its hierarchy, which is committed to deliver a document, around the middle of August, on the subject of human rights. And many hopes, springing from diverse quarters, are being kindled by this declaration.

But the matter is not a simple one. The Church leadership finds itself in an impasse between two rather powerful viewpoints on how to address not only the subject of human rights but also the Church's global task of evangelization. And since the bishops have the more-than-age-old custom of acting in unison, nothing very spectacular can be expected. But, as one curate says, "There is something that enlightens the Church, so that in the end it will be more faithful to the Gospel."

When a sensitive proclamation has to be drawn up—according to a source close to the hierarchy—the Standing Committee, which is officially responsible for producing it, "looks for a priest who is a good writer, and an even better thinker, to come up with a first draft." The draft is refined by the Committee's secretary and is then sent to all the bishops for their written suggestions. With these suggestions in hand, the Standing Committee proceeds to assemble the final version of the work.

In the case of the present document, "two good writers and even better thinkers" were chosen: Vicar Cristian Precht and Jesuit Fernando Montes, managing editor of MENSAJE magazine.

According to several informed opinions, the Church cannot be expected to take too definitive a stand. It is believed that the text, in an effort to reconcile the values of justice and peace, will reaffirm doctrinal principles, but that it is likely to stop short of proposing specific solutions. Truth will probably be posited as the fundamental issue, as the foundation stone of the reconciliation, with justice put at a level of hope and possibility. It is thought by some that the document will also urge repentance by those who have committed important violations, and will look with favor upon an unequivocal gesture in this respect. And lastly, our

sources believe, the Church will repeat its offer to serve as a private channel for obtaining knowledge of the location of bodies of "disappeared" prisoners.

Be that as it may, the difficulties of building the consensus that will be needed have been expressed publicly. In an open letter to Christians, Bishop Carlos Camus, of Linares, posed what in his opinion is the major dilemma: "How to render justice without endangering peace?" He then asks himself and asks the Army: "Can a prestigious institution be built, if learning of the truth is avoided?" "Does team spirit compel one to become an accomplice in an injustice?" Finally, Bishop Camus concludes: "Which is more important, justice or peace? A terrible dilemma at the base of a decision that all of us Chileans are called upon to make."

The answer was not late in coming. From Valparaiso, Bishop Jorge Medina retorted that he is not in favor of advancing opinions on the subject, "because indiscretions may be very damaging, and the position of the president of the Republic is extremely delicate." Bishop Medina, however, advances an opinion: "Reconciliation depends on forgiving and forgetting. God forgets our sins."

This minipolemic is indicative of the differences that divide the Chilean bishops. And what is involved is not solely a matter of a difference anchored in the human rights issue. The question goes much deeper. It has to do with a universal institution that is embarking on a new phase designed to restore a traditional conception of church, that is fighting to bring to every society the principles of Christianity. In other words, to impose an objective morality, and to make of it the pivotal point of the man-God relation. As put by one of the Chilean priests who participated in the Santo Domingo Latin American Bishops Conference: "We are building a Church much more of Heaven than of earth."

The Vatican has been redesigning the model of church it wants, and has been doing it with determination and forcefulness. To that end—and this is a viewpoint shared by those who look upon this policy with greater or lesser favor—it has given less and less importance to Bishops Conferences in order to give more power to each individual bishopric. In the Catholic Church's structure, each diocese is independent and answers directly to the Pope. The Bishops Conferences, which are a coordinating instrument, had gained much power since Vatican Council II and, in practice, were acting as an agency of the upper hierarchy. This conferred on the majority positions of each country a very solid clout vis-a-vis the Vatican's leadership.

Thus, the interpretation of worldwide directives was being determined to a considerable extent by local realities. By minimizing the role of the Conferences, the Pope can exercise his will much more forcefully vis-a-vis each individual bishop. In Chile's case, moreover, the fast pace at which new bishops have been appointed has drastically changed the profile of the local collegial body, a regard in which Angelo Sodano, who for 10 years was the papal nuncio in Chile, and is now the Vatican's secretary of state, has played a substantial role.

In the last few years, Jorge Medina, Antonio Moreno, and Cristian Caro were elevated to the rank of bishops, and, in a hitherto absolutely unheard of occurrence in our country, so were three priests of Opus Dei: Adolfo Rodriguez, Luis Gleiner, and Felipe Bacarreza. With them, a clear-cut impasse was created within the Bishops Conference between those whose aim it is to identify solidly with the Vatican's views, and those who support the idea of a Church more committed to socially orientated views and open to the country's plurality.

The impasse has a tilt, however, in favor of the sector headed by Medina. "They have the explicit support of the Universal Church's highest authorities," says a vicar. "This gives them an enormous clout."

According to Eugenio Diaz, deputy chairman of the Justice and Peace Committee, the pro-Vatican sector advocates a Church turned inwardly within itself, that distances itself from a part of society. "The Church is interested most of all in moral values, centering mainly on sexuality, and in the revival of its more traditional roles." In his opinion, the progressive forces find themselves powerless to impose their views. "After so many difficult years in which they were on the front line, they are somewhat exhausted," he says. "They are also limited by their desire not to cause problems for the government. Thus, any criticism is postponed in order not to create difficulties for the transition process."

The opinion in some sectors is that the Church is absent and somewhat silent. Other spokespersons, however, maintain that this is more an appearance than a reality. They deem that the political situation has changed and that this has resulted in the Church's becoming less news, less of a protagonist. But, they add, it is doing considerable work in the social field. There are agreements with the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] and a house for refugees (especially from Peru) has been opened, and seminars have been held on poverty and on economic and social rights. A seminar on the rural economy is to be held in August, and very hard work is being done on the issues of prisons, health, and native affairs. The Church has not retreated, these sources assert. It has changed its priorities because the reality is no longer the same.

Everybody agrees, however, that the impasse within the hierarchy has brought about a kind of paralysis in related matters. Under the previous regimen, the defense of human rights was a distinctive tendency and the task was shared by everyone. The question that remains unanswered now is: Putting aside strictly religious matters, with what other issues should the Church occupy itself?

An answer is given by Vatican consultant Fernando Moreno, an intellectual who is very close to the traditionalist sectors. He maintains that "We laics must not tire of demanding our space, our territory, our field of action. We must prevent invasion of the laics' field of action by priests, whatever their rank may be." And he adds: "Priests who are involved in temporal tasks must bear in mind that their commitment must be renewed and purified by the Gospel."

The explanation of the latent dispute within the hierarchy lies in the delicate balances of power among the bishops. Privately, each rules at his own discretion over the diocese he is responsible for, but in the Bishops Conference they maneuver to maintain public consensus. There are signs, however, that power is gradually clustering, by preference, in and around several factions.

A key man is the secretary general of the Conference and of the Standing Committee. The position is filled today by Cristian Caro, who has spent the major part of his priestly life in the Seminario Mayor. This same representative heads the Pastoral Office, a kind of Ministry of Interior, so that the articulation of the majority of Church actions passes through his hands.

Another undisputable heavyweight is Jorge Medina. He is considered the most forceful Vatican representative in our country. And indications are not lacking: He was named assistant secretary of the Latin American Bishops Assembly, held in Santo Domingo, despite the fact that he had not been elected by his equals in the Chilean official delegation. He was one of the writers of the new Vatican catechism. And lest that not be enough, he was given the task of preaching in the latest Holy Week retreat, which was attended by the Pope and by the top leadership of the worldwide hierarchy. Those in the know assert that, very soon, Medina will be assigned a privileged position in the Vatican. For the moment, family problems are keeping him anchored in this country.

Although the current president of the Bishops Conference, Fernando Ariztia, enjoys great affection and prestige among his equals, he does not have a definitive leadership status. According to comments in ecclesiastical circles, he was selected more as a regional counterweight than for any other reason. At the time of his appointment, it was expected that Carlos Oviedo would become president. However, Cristian Caro was already secretary general, and placing two bishops from Santiago in key positions seemed hardly acceptable. Thus, Ariztia was a compromise selection, acceptable to everyone, but with little margin of real power.

Essentially, under the influence of the Vatican plan, the Chilean Church is experiencing a period of withdrawing within itself, distancing itself from hazards, and trying to contain the "modernistic" arrogance of a society that shies away from the more traditional values. It continues being Chile's most prestigious and morally most influential institution. The point under discussion is: In which basket will it place, once and for all, its considerable accumulated capital. The answer is not yet altogether clear, and the August document on human rights will be a luminous pointer.

[Box, p 3]:

Factions in the Hierarchy

A classification of Chilean bishops by leanings is always somewhat arbitrary. The categories within the Catholic Church do not necessarily conform to the classic leanings

that make up the political spectrum. This sometimes generates confusions, and prelates who identify themselves with certain positions in some cases, appear in different positions in others. The Church is not a common run-of-the-mill organization, and the forms in which its hierarchical relationships develop are unique to it. Not gratuitously does all correspondence between bishops end with the traditional closing: "Yours in the brotherly love of Christ." It is a style that identifies exclusively with this age-old institution.

All in all, it is possible to delineate rather clear leanings. Some are very marked and others more subtle. In the following classification, use is made of terms that are well understood. These terms are not used by the hierarchy itself, but they serve to define what each group stands for:

Hard-Core Traditionalists: (7) Jorge Medina (bishop of Valparaiso), Antonio Moreno (archbishop of Concepcion), Joaquin Matte (vicar of the military services), Orozimbo Fuenzalida (bishop of San Bernardo), Luis Gleiner (auxiliary bishop of Rancagua), Adolfo Rodriguez (bishop of Los Angeles), Felipe Bacarreza (auxiliary bishop of Concepcion).

Hard-Core Progressivists: (7) Fernando Ariztia (bishop of Copiapo), Carlos Gonzalez (bishop of Talca), Carlos Camus (bishop of Linares), Tomas Gonzalez (bishop of Punta Arenas), Sergio Contreras (bishop of Temuco), Alejandro Goic (auxiliary bishop of Talca), Jorge Hourton (auxiliary bishop of Temuco).

Center Progressivists: (6) Manuel Camilo Vial (bishop of San Felipe), Alejandro Jimenez (bishop of Valdivia), Alberto Jara (bishop of Chillan), Bernardo Cazzaro (bishop of Puerto Montt), Pablo Lizama (bishop of Melipilla), Juan Luis Ysern (bishop of Ancud).

Center Traditionalists: (7) Cristian Caro (auxiliary bishop of Santiago), Renato Hatche (bishop of Arica), Sixto Parzinger (bishop of La Araucania), Francisco Jose Cox (archbishop of La Serena), Aldo Lazzarin (bishop of Aisen), Juan Herrada (auxiliary bishop of Antofagasta), Rafael De la Barra (bishop of Illapel).

Center-Centrists: (7) Carlos Oviedo (archbishop of Santiago), Javier Prado (bishop of Rancagua), Sergio Valech (auxiliary bishop of Santiago), Patricio Infante (archbishop of Antofagasta), Enrique Troncoso (bishop of Iquique), Cristian Contreras (bishop of Calama), Miguel Caviedes (bishop of Osorno).

The 34 above-name bishops make up the Bishops Conference, coordinating agent of the national Church. The Conference elects a Standing Committee, comprised of five prelates.

Standing Committee: Fernando Ariztia, president Carlos Oviedo, vice president Cristian Caro, secretary general Javier Prado, member Carlos Gonzalez, member

Colombia

Castro, Gaviria Hold 'Interesting' Four-Hour Meeting

PA1108003293 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol
Network in Spanish 2350 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Report by Victor Lopez and Fabio Callejas in Cartagena de Indias—live]

[Text] The critical situation that prevails in Central American countries; Cuba's economic crisis, resulting from the U.S. economic embargo, among other things; and bilateral issues were basically the topics reviewed on 10 August by Presidents Cesar Gaviria and Fidel Castro in a dialogue that lasted more than four hours.

Caracol was also able to ascertain that, despite the private character of the meeting, there was time to discuss the issue of guerrilla violence in Colombia. Since the meeting between Presidents Fidel Castro and Cesar Gaviria is private, no agreement will be signed and no joint declaration will be issued following the meeting they held on 10 August.

However, it has been confirmed that separate news conferences will be held at 1100 [1600 GMT] on Wednesday, 11 August. Fidel Castro will hold a news conference first and President Cesar Gaviria will hold one afterward.

What did Foreign Minister Nohemi Sanin say about the meeting held at Cartagena de Indias house for illustrious guests?

[Begin Sanin recording] The morning activities have ended. There has been ample discussion, above all of political, social, and economic issues; and, naturally, different views were exchanged. They were quite interesting. [end recording]

Following President Fidel Castro's meeting with the media, the Cuban leader will depart for Cuba in the afternoon.

Cuban President Castro on Recent Measures, Clinton

PA1108035493 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision
Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0135 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro on the evening of 10 August told the "CMI Newscast" exclusively why he had come to Colombia and what he discussed with President Gaviria. He said that the guerrilla problem in Colombia should be settled by judges.

[Begin recording] [Castro] It is not my duty to establish guidelines for anyone. Our country's stand is that political struggle should be used whenever there are possibilities to engage in a political struggle. We stated this in the first and second Havana Declarations. That has always been our position. We have never advocated armed struggles for the sake of armed struggles. I think that whenever there are political possibilities to employ peaceful means one must employ peaceful means. That is my opinion.

[[Casas]] Mr. President, I am (Freddy Casas) of the CMI Newscast. Does your most recent measure allowing the inflow of dollars not suggest you are somewhat opening the door to capitalism; do you not think this runs counter to the principles you have defended so much?

[Castro] I talked about dollars and foreign currency in general. I am giving no privileges to the dollar. People can send Colombian pesos as well. We are talking all currencies. It is not the right to circulate but actually a ban on.... [pauses] I mean to depenalize its position or rather its possession, which had been penalized until now.

Convertible foreign currency has entered the country with the advent of tourism and other activities that have produced an opening. We thought it was more advisable to depenalize their possession; those who want to have it, save it, or invest it may do as they wish. There will be a network of services and commercial establishments where they will be able to spend it. In this way our country will also collect a portion of those resources from the trade and services network.

I think this would be more useful and advisable for the country than to simply continue to follow the line we had maintained of considering their possession a crime. It is no longer a crime. The currency that continues to circulate in our country, however, is the Cuban Peso. It will continue to be our legal tender.

The other currencies will be used, I repeat, in certain businesses and services. The resources we collect from the convertible foreign currency will be spent on purchasing food and medicine to benefit the country. I do not think this will change our ideology or our principles because before renouncing our principles we would rather renounce our lives. Another question?

[Reporter] President Clinton announced he will try to prevent too many dollars from entering Cuba.

[Castro] That is President Clinton's duty. That is his duty if he wishes to continue the policy of destroying the Cuban revolution. We are not, however, the ones who bring in the dollars. Tourists bring them. Relatives of Cubans who (?reside) in the United States bring them. And when did Clinton say that? I did not hear that. With all his domestic problems I do not think he has enough time to spend on things such as this. I think in the past days he has struggled to get his economic plan approved. It was approved by two votes in the House of Representatives and by one vote in the Senate. I think he spent all his time making phone calls to senators and representatives and I do not think he has had much time to sabotage the economic measures that Cuba is adopting to combat the blockade and help the country survive. This also stands for our country's independence.

[Reporter] President Castro, some intellectuals and Latin American parliamentarians published in the Colombian press a document discussing openness, elections, change of government, and the resignation of President Castro in Cuba?

[Castro] I have not had the privilege of reading that document. We need to find out who wrote it. If they are talking about elections while overlooking the elections we held on 24 February, which everyone knows about, they would be showing their ignorance. I can really not be blamed for the ignorance of other people. I do not wish to take up your time but I want you to know we held elections that were recognized and admired by many world peoples.

[Reporter] Do you think socialism failed definitely? If you do not think so, how can socialism be achieved in a country; through weapons or politics?

[Castro] I actually think capitalism has failed. And so has imperialism, colonialism, and neocolonialism because there has never been so much poverty in the world; never so many hungry people; never so many people lacking medical attention. [end recording]

President Gaviria asked President Castro to make reforms in Cuba. President Castro described his Cartagena visit as a technical stopover. He said he discussed all topics with President Gaviria. The presence of the Cuban president in Colombia reportedly reflects his willingness to hold talks.

M-19's Navarro Wolff on Situation in Cuba

PA1108042093 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Telephone interview with Antonio Navarro Wolff, leader of the 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance, M-19, by unidentified reporters; from the "Ultima Hora Caracol" newscast—live]

[Text] [Reporter] The news of the day is Fidel Castro's presence in Colombia. We will interview Antonio Navarro Wolff. Good morning. What do you think is the reason for Fidel Castro's visit to our country?

[Navarro] Castro's visit to Colombia is consonant with the interests of both presidents. For President Castro it is a way to seek an opening of the U.S. blockade, which has been intensified. In my opinion, the blockade, which is senseless, is an archaic continuation of the Cold War. For President Gaviria, I believe there are two important issues. On one hand, in the international field the Colombian Government has been criticized on human rights. On the other, President Castro recently said he believes the time for the armed struggle is over; therefore, Castro's visit can portray a multilateral and broad image in the international field and reinforce the need for a negotiation process to seek peace in Colombia. Those could be the reasons for President Gaviria's meeting with Castro in Cartagena.

[Arizmendi] How would you interpret the presence of Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Solana during these talks? Approximately two or three weeks ago, the Spanish foreign minister travelled to Havana, Cuba on a secret mission. During his visit, he held unofficial talks with Fidel and Cuban officials, which caused an uproar in Spain and was recently protested by the Spanish Popular Party [Partido Popular Espanol].

[Navarro] I believe Cuba is inexorably heading to a market economy. In my opinion, the latest measure adopted, the legalization of purchases with dollars in Cuba, is irreversible. There had been previous attempts to open the economy a little. Two years ago, the peasant markets that were closed afterward were somewhat aimed at seeking opportunities by introducing certain aspects linked to a market economy. Today, I believe this is inevitable; otherwise, they will die from hunger. The lack of foreign exchange is excruciating.

I believe Cuba's shift toward a market economy must be handled intelligently. Spain has been one of the most intelligent countries in dealing with this situation. Spain has made significant investments in tourism in Cuba, because since the days of Franco it has maintained respectful and cordial relations with Cuba. This has enabled Spain to enjoy a favorable position now that Cuba is heading toward a market economy.

[Reporter] If a market economy were established in Cuba, as you have predicted, would this imply the beginning of the end of that [words indistinct]?

[Navarro] Cuba has a very special situation. Other countries, such as the PRC, are making [word indistinct] experiments under what is known as market socialism, combining a single-party political regime and [words indistinct] open to all market forms.

[Reporter] A sort of combination of political socialism and economic capitalism?

[Navarro] Yes, it is somewhat strange. I think this will definitely lead to a political democracy, because it is the logical outcome for this entire process. The United States has welcomed this transition. For many years the United States has granted the PRC a number of advantages, such as most favored nation status. In contrast, it has maintained a rigid stand toward Cuba, a stand that has become archaic now that the Cold War is over, now that the justification for the Torricelli Law—that is, Cuba's promotion of guerrillas in Latin America—is completely groundless, because even peace was definitely signed in El Salvador.

The United States is maintaining a hardline with the blockade. It is trying to sort of push Castro's regime against [words indistinct], trying to pressure Cuba with it. This makes no sense, it is unjustified, an archaism. This is why I think the efforts made by Latin American countries—with the cooperation of Spain, which knows the Cuban situation very well because it has always maintained contacts with the Cuban regime to bring about a transition other than an abrupt one that involves a total break, an invasion, or something similar—are the most intelligent of all. I think the [word indistinct] government is doing the right thing by being part of a group that prefers to use intelligence rather than force.

[Reporter] Dr. Navarro, among the reasons that led to Cuba's isolation from the international community—thanks to the blockade the United States has maintained for more than 30 years—were its attempts to export the revolution and support armed groups. Don't you think

there has been a lack of.... [pauses] or rather a need to give a historic explanation regarding the way M-19 depended on the Cuban Government, on its protection?

We had a conversation with [Communist Party leader] Gilberto Vieira on 9 August. He assured us that President Fidel Castro told M-19 leaders it was madness to invade the south during Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's administration when the M-19 carried out an operation that started in Tumaco, at the Ecuadoran border. I am sure you remember this well.

Dr. Gilberto Vieira assured that Castro was aware of Operation South and did nothing to stop it. What about the relationship M-19 had with Castro and the support the Cuban regime gave the M-19 guerrillas?

[Navarro] I will state the historical facts clearly to ensure they are understood in their right dimension. Between 1979 and 1981 the Cubans trained little more than 100, perhaps 160, M-19 members in two groups. The first group, the one you mentioned, landed in Tumaco, and a second group that established [words indistinct] of the M-19 along the western (?mountain range).

There was no support in the form of weapons or money. The support consisted of training. Those are the facts. After that, never again—as far as I know—did the Cubans train M-19 members or any other Colombian guerrilla group. I repeat: Cuba never armed or financed guerrillas in Colombia.

Later there was only some humanitarian aid for a few people, including me. I was in Cuba after I left Mexico, where I recovered after my leg was amputated. Those are the actual historical facts of the relationship I was aware of between the Colombian guerrillas and Cuban Government. There was never at any time, let us say, guidelines or a mandate imposed on us. We never stopped pointing out our differences or criticizing situations in Cuba.

Each of us respected the other.

Jaime Bateman, who established a relationship of personal friendship with Fidel Castro, made the decision to carry out the landing (?in the south) that you mentioned. We were in prison at the time. You will recall that our relations with President Cesar Turbay were difficult at the time. The government made war on us and sentenced us to 1,000 years in prison. President Turbay's foreign policy was so strange that he backed the British invasion on the Falkland Islands. The situation then led to the events you asked me to tell about, which I have done.

[Arizmendi] With due respect, Dr. Navarro, what was the nature of your relationship with Castro during and after the time when you were a guerrilla?

[Navarro] I met Castro when I went to Cuba for treatment after the attack in Cali in 1985. I had heard of him before but had not met him. It was Bateman who talked with him. After that time, my relationship with him has been very limited. Of course, I sympathize with the Cuban people, who are in deep trouble, are deeply hurt, and require our

solidarity. As you know, such things remain etched on the human soul. The Cuban people can have my personal solidarity. I have a personal view of the Cuban situation, a view linked to what I saw in the island and which I am voicing freely.

[Arizmendi] When did you last visit the island?

[Navarro] I went to Cuba a few weeks ago to participate in a forum of political parties and organizations called the Saint Paul Forum.

[Arizmendi] Regarding the penultimate time you visited Cuba or on the previous times you visited the island after 1985 for treatment, has the situation changed much? Do you think life in Cuba is dramatic?

[Navarro] Yes, poverty is very marked; the gasoline shortage is acute; people are experiencing great difficulties. This is why I stress the idea that the liberation process starts with the possibility of buying U.S. dollars in Cuba. This is going to be very difficult. I read a report saying Cuba's sugar harvest this year had been 4.2 million tons, while the normal harvest used to be 7, 7.5, or 8 million tons. In other words, the current harvest is half the normal one. The shortage of U.S. dollars is dramatic and must be bought. I think legalizing the possession of U.S. dollars is irreversible and lets Cuba attract foreign investment, in which great efforts have been made, and a market economy, a process that I regard as irreversible as well.

[Arizmendi] If this breath of fresh air fails to arrive, if a helping hand is not given quickly and timely, do you think there can be a social explosion as the result of the precarious situation in the field of food, fuel, and nearly every other field?

[Navarro] I cannot tell whether an explosion will take place. I would rather not have one. I would rather like a well-planned transition. An explosion [words indistinct]. A U.S. invasion of Cuba would be another disaster. A timely transition would be much more intelligent. If Latin American countries and Spain seek such a transition, everyone would benefit. Cuba's present economy is unfeasible, despite its excellent progress in education, health, and social development. The only way out would be to introduce an orderly market economy, which can make Cuba's economy more efficient and enable the country to incorporate foreign capital, which Cubans want to attract. Foreign capital can serve to bring technology and production organization that Cuba does not have now.

[Arizmendi] Thanks to Dr. Navarro, for his important and sincere remarks, which indicate a broad conviction. He has told us about his background and his knowledge of Cuba's reality.

Peru

New Article Grants President Power to Promote Officers

PA1008192593 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Aug 93

[From the "Buenos Dias Peru" program]

[Text] On 9 August, the Democratic Constituent Congress approved a total of 15 articles of the chapter on security and national defense. Most of those articles are similar to those in currently in force. The president is the supreme chief of the Armed Forces and National Police. Another article states that the Armed Forces and the National Police are not belligerent and are subordinate to constitutional power.

The most controversial aspect of this article had to do with the elimination of congressional authority to confirm the promotions of the highest ranking officers of the Armed Forces and National Police. The approved article states that the president will decide on the promotions of Armed Forces' generals and admirals of and the National Police generals, based on proposals by the appropriate corps.

All opposition and Renewal Movement deputies voted against it. Voting in favor were the New Majority-Change 90 deputies and the Popular Agrarian Front of Peru.

Another constitutional change was introduced in Article 202, which raises the status of the norm that transfers to military courts the trials of civilians charged with treason and terrorism.

Uruguay

Cultural Exchange Agreement Signed With PRC

PY1108015893 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Government sources reported that the governments of Uruguay and the PRC have signed a cultural exchange agreement with a possible extension to the fields of science and technology. The agreement was signed by Uruguayan Education and Culture Minister Antonio Mercader and the PRC deputy culture minister, who will stay two more days in Montevideo visiting cultural institutions, museums, and tourist areas.

Cultural agreements are the best manner of consolidating integration among countries, Mercader said. The agreement provides for the exchange of groups of artists, scholars, and the establishment of art fairs.

Internal Army Espionage Case Causing 'Profound Concern'

PY1008190593 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] According to various military and political sources, the discovery of a microphone in an Army Logistics Support Command [Comando de Apoyo Logistico del Ejercito] office headed by General Fernan Amado has uncovered an internal espionage operation, and has caused a scandal at top military levels. General Mario Aguerrondo has claimed responsibility for this incident.

This intricate issue prompted an urgent meeting of generals at Army headquarters yesterday. The meeting was chaired by the Army commander in chief himself, Lieutenant General Juan Rebollo. According to military sources the

meeting was harsh and tense. Amado had previously informed Rebollo of this incident.

This issue, which has already prompted the preventive arrest of a captain and would require the involvement of the Supreme Military Tribunal, is being kept in strict confidence, and is being strictly handled by the generals and officers linked to the information services.

The arrested captain facilitated the access of the person who installed the microphone, even though it is not clear if he was aware of the operation planned.

According to available reports, the microphone was installed in an Army Logistics Support Command Office. This office operates at the (Covarrer) mall building in downtown Montevideo. It was usually used by Gen. Amado to hold working meetings.

The sources said that initially Gen. Aguerrondo denied any involvement in this incident, but then admitted it, because otherwise General Luis Abraham, Aguerrondo's replacement as Defense Ministry Information Service director, would have been involved.

Aguerrondo was recently removed from his post as Defense Ministry Information Service director and transferred to the post of School of Arms and Services director as a consequence of the [missing Chilean chemist Eugenio] Berrios case. Aguerrondo was the director of that Defense Ministry intelligence office when the Chilean scientist's case became public.

In military circles, this issue caused great surprise and has raised profound concern.

High-ranking military sources have emphasized that this case of espionage among generals is unprecedented. The discovery of the microphone a few days ago was so secret that some high-ranking officers questioned yesterday were unaware of the issue.

As a consequence of this incident, Gen. Amado has reportedly asked for a Court of Honor because he reportedly felt challenged by a colleague.

Mid-level officers emphasized that this problem strictly involves the Army leadership. They noted that the possible replacement of Rebollo, who will retire in December, and certain internal struggles reportedly played a role in this incident.

Various sources agreed that this incident might lead to Gen. Aguerrondo's retirement.

Suriname

Government Urges Netherlands To Resume Financial Aid

BR1008150193 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 10 Aug 93 p 7

[Article by Linda Otter: "Suriname Demanding Resumption of Dutch Aid"]

[Text] The Netherlands must carry out its treaties with Suriname "to their full extent." The Surinamese Government formulated this demand in response to the Dutch advice to turn to the IMF and the World Bank for financial support. As expected, Suriname rejected this advice.

The Netherlands has recently cancelled its balance of payment subsidies to Suriname, because the Surinamese Government is putting off the adoption of an economic recovery policy that is acceptable to "The Hague." "The Netherlands' unilateral decision to impose restrictions on the implementation of treaties without any consultation is contrary to the treaty's letter and spirit," the government in Paramaribo stated.

Last week, Surinamese party leaders made it clear that they would not follow the Dutch advice to turn to the IMF and World Bank. The politicians claimed that the Netherlands had to comply with the treaties with Suriname and that the unilateral cancellation of the balance of payment subsidies is contrary to the agreements.

The government is attempting to become eligible for funds from the EC. However, in order to qualify for that money, it will have to implement recovery measures very fast. Early July, the EC refused to act as an external assessor, because Suriname failed to take recovery measures.

Inflation at 54 Percent, To Rise to 100 Percent in 1993

BR1008145993 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 9 Aug 93 p 9

[Unattributed article: "Inflation Expected To Reach 100 Percent in Suriname This Year"]

[Text] Paramaribo—According to R. Assen, head of the General Statistical Bureau [ABS], inflation in Suriname will reach 100 percent by the end of 1993. Inflation during the first six months of this year reached 54 percent.

By "inflation" Assen means the average price increase for products and services whose quality remains unchanged. This is contrary to the view held by economists, who define inflation as the rise in the general price index following the circulation of excessive amounts of money.

Previously, Suriname had inflation of between 8 and 10 percent; this drop in purchasing power was offset by salary increases. Today's high inflation means that this is no longer possible. High inflation discourages people from saving money, while making it advantageous to borrow money, because the borrowed amount soon becomes worth less, meaning that borrowers effectively pay back less money when cancelling out the debt.

In recent months, the prices of food and drink, clothing, footwear, and domestic appliances have risen. Between 15 May and 15 July, prices came down slightly when the black market exchange rates for foreign currencies dropped following the artificial raising of the dollar to 60 Surinamese guilders, which had resulted in a drastic decrease in trade.

One rough estimate, by economist H. Rijdsijk, advisor to the central bank, puts the total assets belonging to residents of Suriname, which are held by foreign banks, at \$2 billion.

